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PROCEEDINGS

AND

COLLECTIONS

OF THE

WYOMING HISTORICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY,

188

FOR THE YEAR 1922.

EDITED BY

FRANCES DORRANCE, Director.



—
VOLUME XVIII.
—

WILKES-BARRÉ, PA.
PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY.

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THE E. B. YORDY CO.
1923.

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BY

THE WYOMING HISTORICAL AND
GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

THE WYOMING HISTORICAL AND
GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY
AT CHEYENNE, WYOMING
1923

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February 7-6-48



Irving Ariel Stearns

PREFACE.

With the publication of Volume XVIII, the Society bridges the gap since Volume XVII was distributed. It is intended henceforth to issue the volumes annually in order that the valuable material furnished by the lectures and collections may reach the members promptly. In so far as possible, each volume will cover the fiscal year.

The present volume was collected and arranged by Miss Kaehlin during the summer and early autumn of 1922. Since then, our task has been to edit and index its contents.

The publishing committee are confident that the members of the Historical Society will feel entirely compensated for the long wait that has marked the issue of volume 18 by the interest and importance of its articles. "Little Old Wilkes-Barré" by Miss Brower, a witty, lively, and vivid description of Wilkes-Barré years ago, will be enjoyed by all who have known it as it was then, either by personal experience or through the recollections of others.

The two articles on the Pilgrims by William Brewster and the Rev. Ferdinand Von Krug, were particularly timely when read and furnish clear summaries of the principles and lives of the Pilgrim Fathers. The articles on "Wilkes-Barré's old newspapers" by Oscar Jewell Harvey, were prepared with his usual scholarly research and presented so interestingly that through them the loss to the Society in his death is felt the more keenly.

In addition to the interest and importance of these papers, the volume contains local history material of incomparable value in the "Westmoreland Probate Records", from January, 1777 to June, 1783. These are here published for the first time, through the courtesy and generosity of William A. Wilcox, one of the Society's benefactors. These records will also be available in pamphlet form.

The larger program outlined by the President in his report will be the goal set for the Society. It can be reached only through the co-operation of a large and interested membership. Let each member take an active personal part in thus increasing the activities and achievements of this organization.

FRANCES DORRANCE,
ERNESTINE MARTIN KAEHLIN,
GEORGE FREDERICK CODDINGTON,
Publishing Committee.

THE WYOMING HISTORICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY,

WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA.

Organized 1858.

The Library and Museum Collections are housed in the Historical Society Building, next to the Osterhout Free Library, as provided by the will of the late Isaac S. Osterhout.

The library contains about 30,000 volumes and pamphlets, including United States and Pennsylvania publications; on biography, genealogy, general American and local Pennsylvania history, geology and the American Indian. It receives many historical, ethnological and genealogical magazines. It has a large collection of rare old manuscript records and papers, early and nearly complete files of local newspapers and hundreds of photographs of local places and people. There is also a large collection of local and general maps.

The museum contains collections of 45,000 archeological, geological and ethnological objects, including the Lacoé collection of fossils, thousands of relics of the American Indian and hundreds of local antiques, furniture, household utensils, implements, relics of all American wars in which local men have served, etc. There is also a small but representative collection of local birds.

The library and museum are open to the public daily from 10:00 a. m. to 5:00 p. m.

The Society has published eighteen volumes and many pamphlets.

Lectures are given at least four times a year by noted speakers of local or national reputation. All lectures are open to the public.

The members receive all publications and privileges free.

Gifts of Indian relics, geological specimens, local antiques, photographs and particularly old papers and records of all kinds are greatly desired by the Society. Also relics of all American wars and of the European war and any articles of present or of future historic value. Loan exhibits are welcomed. They will be promptly acknowledged and carefully preserved and exhibited.

Address,

Wyoming Historical and Geological Society,
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

FORM OF A BEQUEST.

I give and bequeath to the "WYOMING HISTORICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY," the sum of (*here state the sum to be given*), for the use of said Society absolutely.

FORM OF A DEVISE.

I give and bequeath (*here describe the real estate to be given*), unto the "WYOMING HISTORICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY," its successors and assigns forever.

The Society will be glad to receive any parts of Volume I, and all copies of Volume XVI that members may be willing to spare.

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OFFICERS FOR 1923-1924.

President.

COL DORRANCE REYNOLDS.

Vice Presidents.

HON. JOHN BUTLER WOODWARD.
DR. LEWIS HARLOW TAYLOR.
WILLIAM HILLARD CONYNGHAM.
GILBERT STEWART McCLINTOCK.

Director.

FRANCES DORRANCE.

Librarian.

ERNESTINE MARTIN KAEHLIN.

Archivist.

EDWARD SWEETSER TILLOTSON.

Recording Secretary.

SAMUEL COGSWELL CHASE.

Treasurer.

CHARLES WILBER LAYCOCK.

Trustees.

ISAAC M. THOMAS. MALCOLM BURNSIDE.
RICHARD SHARPE. HARRY B. SCHOOLEY.
THEODORE BARBER.

Curators.

NUMISMATICS—LEWIS HARLOW TAYLOR.
MINERALOGY—WILLIAM REYNOLDS RICKETTS.
ANTHRACITE COAL AND } FREDERICK EDGAR ZERBEY.
COAL MINING—

Historian.

WILLIAM A. WILCOX.

Historiographer.

KATHLEEN HAND.

Finance.

RICHARD SHARPE. ISAAC M. THOMAS.
WILLIAM H. CONYNGHAM.

Essays and Papers.

MRS. FREDERICK HILLMAN, Chairman.

Increase of Membership.

ERNEST G. SMITH, Chairman.

Picture Hanging.

GILBERT S. McCLINTOCK, Chairman.

REPORTS AND COLLECTIONS

OF THE

Wyoming Historical and Geological Society

Volume XVIII

WILKES-BARRÉ, PA.

1922

PROCEEDINGS.

In recognition of the fact that the history of to-morrow is founded on the conditions of to-day, the Trustees decided to engage, as speaker at the annual meeting, the Rev. Red Fox Skiuhushu, a full blooded northern Blackfoot Indian, an ordained minister, and the General Secretary of the American Indian Association. The meeting, held on February 16, 1923, was divided into two sessions. The one in the afternoon for boys and girls was a crowded one. More than 200 children sat on the floor and tables and stood in the door-ways for over an hour absorbed in Red Fox's story, and in his wonderful chieftain costume. He emphasized the beauty and symbolism of Indian beliefs and customs in a most interesting way.

Owing to the limited space in the Historical Society building the evening session was held in the nearest auditorium, the chapel of the First Presbyterian Church, placed at the disposal of the Society by the Rev. Dr. James M. Farr. Approximately 300 people were present. Col. Dorrance Reynolds, the President, presided. Omitting the reading of the minutes, Col. Reynolds appointed a Nominating Committee for the officers for 1923-1924. He then read his report, which is given in full later, together with the Treasurer's reports for 1921 and 1922. In view of the death of Mr. Christopher Wren, last April, Col. Reynolds presented the following resolution which was unanimously passed:

"The Wyoming Historical and Geological Society in Annual Meeting assembled records with deep regret the death, since its last annual meeting, of Christopher Wren, for the past five years the devoted and scholarly Corresponding Secretary and Librarian of this Society.

"As his community has lost by his death a public spirited and responsible citizen, similarly, has this Society lost a member and officer whose zeal and antiquarian enthusiasm and research have greatly advanced the Society's interest and increased the completeness and value of its collections.

"We desire that this resolution be spread upon the minutes and communicated to his family."

After announcing various items of business, the officers, nominated by the committee, were elected as printed below. In recognition of the gift of Mr. William A. Wilcox and the heirs of Mr. Steuben Jenkins, of four volumes of the Early Records of Westmoreland, Litchfield County, Connecticut, it was moved and carried that both Mr. Wilcox and Mr. Jenkins should be made benefactors of the Society.

At the end of the business meeting Rev. Red Fox spoke on "The Philosophy of the American Indian," using this as a text for his plea for the betterment of the present civic status of the American Indian, and the improvement of conditions for his race, "the first real Americans". His telling points aroused much interest and discussion, which it is hoped will result in an organized effort to aid in bringing better opportunities to the American Indian.

GIFTS AND ADDITIONS.

The Society has had numerous gifts. Among the articles added to the Museum during the years 1920-1922, are:

MISCELLANEOUS.

- 1 Animal tooth from railroad excavation on the bank of Red River, near Terral, Oklahoma, in 1900; weight 14 lbs. Secured and given by M. Bishop, of Wilkes-Barre.
- 2 Books. Dr. Mathew Covell's Business Accounts and Private Accounts and Justice of Peace Docket.
- 1 Book. Dr. Edward Covell's Business Accounts. These three volumes gotten from W. S. Roby, executor of Sterling R. Catlin Estate.
- 1 Mauser rifle used during the Civil War. Presented by Mrs. Leslie Ryman.
- 1 Pair of epaulets worn by a lieutenant in the Militia in 1873. From Christopher Wren.
- 1 Piece of Peridotite (diamondiferous rock) known as "hardibank".

- 1 Piece of Peridotite known as "Green Ground". Both presented by the Arkansas Diamond Corporation, in Murfreesboro, Arkansas.
- 1 Three dollar order of the Wilkes-Barre Bridge Co. to pay to D. Paine, or bearer, 24th Oct., 1816 (photograph of original). Presented by Adolph F. Hitchler.
- 1 Oil portrait of Hon. David Scott, 1782-1839, President Judge of Luzerne county, Aug., 1818-Jan., 1838. Presented by Mrs. E. G. Scott, of Wilkes-Barre.
- 1 Oil portrait of Mr. Abram Nesbitt, 1831-1920. Presented by his son, Abram G. Nesbitt.
- 1 Oil portrait of Andrew Hunlock, Esquire, 1839-1920. Presented by Dr. and Mrs. R. L. Wadhams, Wilkes-Barre.
- 1 Fireman's brass trumpet.
- 1 Fireman's belt, both of the Old Volunteer fire days, used by James M. Rutter, Sr., who served under Hon. Stanley Woodward. Presented by his daughter, Miss Frances M. Rutter.
- 2 Shells from Pacific Coast of California (purchased).
- 1 4 lb. solid shot, found near base of Campbell's Ledge, when the canal was dug. Presented by J. W. Ensign, of West Pittston, for heirs of Alexander Robinson.
- 1 Cup from the Centennial, 1876. Presented by Mrs. Eleanor M. Bamford.
- Some old manuscripts. Presented by Mrs. E. M. Bamford.
- 1 Bronze bas-relief of President Theodore Roosevelt. (Purchased).
- Sword of a sword fish, 38 inches long. Presented by A. W. Miller, Philadelphia, Pa.
- Old deeds and contracts, 1793-1810. Presented by Miss Ellen V. Wright.
- A "Bill for loss by the Pennymite Tories", belonged to Jonathan Hunlock. Presented by Andrew Hunlock.
- Rare specimen of anthracite coal, coal fossil and sulphur, copper ore and crystals from the west. Presented by H. P. Connor.
- A fossil from the "Kidney vein", 300 feet below the surface, Hollenback mine, Wilkes-Barre. Presented by Charles Detova.
- A letter written August 23rd, 1822, by Nancy Hancock. Presented by Mrs. Geo. R. Bedford.

- Hot water bed-warming jar. Presented by Mrs. R. V. Norris.
- 100 American coins, silver, nickel and copper, and one paper dollar. Presented by Mrs. Henry Spangelberger, in the name of her husband.
- Fireman's hat and belt, used about Civil War time, worn by Rufus W. Marcy. Presented by R. M. Dias.
- Gold headed cane of Gov. H. M. Hoyt, made of wood from U. S. Brig, "Niagara." Also gold headed cane of Gov. Hoyt, dated Dec. 25, 1869. Presented by his daughter, Miss Maude B. Hoyt.
- Solid cannon ball, fired at the battle of Saratoga, N. Y., during the Revolution. Presented by James McManuus.
- Oak remnant of Confederate States of America war vessel "Merrimac." Presented by James McManuus.
- Sheet of Russian postage stamps, given by Joseph Cohen.
- Case for percussion caps, from Valley Forge, given by Dr. L. H. Taylor.
- Piece of concrete water pipe, given by Turner and Van Scoy Co.

INDIAN RELICS.

- 121 Specimens. Arrow points, pestles, etc., from Mrs. Chas. F. Murray, Wilkes-Barre.
- 1 Good pestle.
- 1 Large axe.
- 1 Broken axe (rare shape).
- 1 Hoe.
- 1 Straw basket or bowl.
- Purchased from Chas. M. Johnstone, Danville, Pa.
- 1 Grooved Axe.
- 1 Celt.
- Found at the head waters of Skippack Creek, Montgomery Co., Pa. (Purchased from Henry Rohde).
- 134 Specimens of Indian relics, arrow points, scrapers and 1 grooved axe, gathered along the Susquehanna between Danville and the Lancaster County line, Pa., from 1880-1920. Purchased from Ben. F. Smith, Millersburg, Pa.
- 39 specimens, Indian relics and other objects made of coal. Presented by Wm. Brodhun.

- Indian stone mortar from farm near where Abraham's Creek crosses Wyoming avenue, Forty Fort. Presented by W. N. White.
- Seven Indian relics from Indian Spring, Jackson township, Pa. Presented by D. J. Morton.
- Pestle found at Coxton, Pa. Presented by James H. O'Neill.
- Indian stone battle-ax, found on field at Conamingo, Maryland.
- Indian granite stone battle-ax, Conamingo, Maryland.
- Three Indian spear heads, from Conamingo, Maryland. Presented by James McManus.

NEW BOOKS PURCHASED DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS.

- Historical Sketch of Coop's Hill Burying Ground, by John Norton.
- Archaeology of Maine, by W. K. Moorehead.
- Topsfield Historical Society Historical Collections.
- In the Footsteps of Washington, by A. H. Heusser.
- Military and Civic Achievements. Mayflower Descendants and their Marriages.
- Rhode Island Historical Society. Rhode Island Court Records, 1662-1670.
- Inscriptions in Old Burying Ground, Cedarville, N. J., by F. D. Andrews.
- Historical Sketch of First Congregational Unitarian Church, Vineland, N. J., by F. D. Andrews.
- History of New Milford, Conn., by Samuel Orcutt.
- The Story of the Arndt Family, by J. S. Arndt.
- Travels in Virginia in Revolutionary Times, by A. Morrison.
- Early Civilization, by A. A. Goldweiser.
- History of Landed Gentry 6th, 87th ed., 4 vols., by Bernard Burke.
- George Bryan and the Constitution of Pennsylvania, 1731-1791, by B. A. Konkle.
- Genealogy of the Staats Family, by Harold Staats.
- Biog. History of the County of Litchfield, Conn., by J. B. Kilbourne.
- Who's Who in America, 1922-23.
- History of Canaan, N. H., by J. B. Wallace.

Metallic implements of New York Indians.....	I	Vol.
Earthenware of New York aborigines.....	I	"
History of New York Iroquois.....	I	"
Aboriginal chipped stone implements of N. Y.....	I	"
Perch Lake Mounds	I	"
Indian place names of New York.....	I	"
Baptismal and marriage registers of old Dutch Church of Kingston, N. Y.....	I	"
Old Bristol potteries between 1650-1850.....	I	"
3rd Vol. of Old Families of Salisbury and Ames- bury, Mass.	I	"
2nd Vol. of Norfolk Families. (England).....	I	"
Parker Families	I	"
Loyalists in Pennsylvania	I	"
Old Silver of American Churches.....	I	"
2nd Vol. of Parsons Family.....	I	"
Vols. 2 and 3 of Delaware Archives.....	2	"
History of town of Litchfield, Conn., 1720-1920..	I	"
Scots and Scots Descendants in America.....	I	"
Book of Family Crests	2	"
Gentleman's Magazine	15	"
Conquest of Virginia. The Forest Primeval.....	I	"
Quaint and Historic Forts of North America....	I	"
Life of Artemus Ward	I	"
Zeisberger's Diary	2	"
Americanism	I	"
Memoirs of Life and Writings of John Evelyn, 1641-1706	I	"
American Silver of the 17th and 18th Century...	I	"
Markland, or Nova Scotia.....	I	"
Craig Family, of Pennsylvania	I	"
Modern Democracies (Bryce)	2	"
Historical Collections of State of New York.....	I	"
The Connecticut River	I	"
A Short History of Monks and Monasteries.....	I	"
Powers-Banks Ancestry	I	"
Records and Files of Quarterly Courts of Essex County, Vol. 8	I	"
Marriage Records of Hunterdon County, N. J., 1795-1875	I	"
Wilkes-Barre Directory, 1921.....	I	"
History and Geography of Montgomery County, Penna.	I	"

In Memory of Mary Carpenter, of England.....	I	Vol.
History and Geography of Province and Country of Pennsylvania and Western New Jersey.....	I	"
Eminent Dead and Biographical Notices of Living Citizens of Montgomery County, Pa.....	I	"
Annals of Pennsylvania, 1609-1682.....	I	"
Capt. Gustavus Conyngham	I	"
Industries of Pennsylvania.....	I	"
History of Mason and Dixon Line.....	I	"
Carpenter's Hall, Pennsylvania	I	"
Congress Hall, an Address by S. W. Pennypacker	I	"

DONORS OF BOOKS TO LIBRARY SINCE VOL. XVII. WAS ISSUED,
INCLUDING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING
DECEMBER 31, 1922.

Estate of Mrs. John C. Phelps (including copies of her Frances Slocum History).....	530	Vols.
Gen. H. W. Lawton Camp, Spanish War Veterans	121	Vols.
Estate of Edward Welles.....	20	"
Mrs. Eleanor Bamford	17	"
Mrs. L. C. Darté	11	"
G. P. Putnam's Sons.....	6	"
Col. Henry W. Shoemaker.....	5	"
New York State Museum.....	2	"
Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Swift Balch.....	2	"
Gilbert S. McClintock	1	"
W. M. Camp	1	"
Pennsylvania Bar Association	2	"
Robert H. Ingersol and Brother.....	1	"
William Riddle	1	"
Miss E. M. Kaehlin.....	1	"
Rev. Wm. P. White.....	2	"
Maurice Williams	1	"
Frank A. Munsey	1	"
Lutheran Publishing House	1	"
Oscar Jewell Harvey	1	"
R. P. Brodhead	1	"
Oliver C. Hillard	3	"
Reynolds Family Association	1	"
State of Pennsylvania	1	"
Hazard Manufacturing Company	2	"
S. Judson Stark	1	"
Edward S. Tillotson	3	"

Edward S. Tillotson	73	Pams.
Mrs. H. St. George Tucker.....	3	Vols.
Miss M. A. Sharpe.....	1	"
Miss Emily Wright Hartland.....	1	"
Rev. George P. Donahoo.....	3	"
Wesley E. Woodruff	2	"
Mrs. George B. Kulp.....	30	"
W. C. Sharpe	2	"
Wm. S. Tompkins	1	"
Dr. Raymond Wadhams	34	"
Ernest J. Ingham	1	"
Thomas W. Balch	1	"
Edwin J. Sellers	1	"
Dr. L. H. Taylor	1	"
Isaac M. Thomas	1	"
Mrs. E. A. Lawton	2	"
Mrs. Walter D. Johnson	5	"
G. W. F. Blanchfield	1	"
Sterling R. Catlin Estate	4	"
Mrs. R. V. A. Norris.....	8	"
Miss Jane A. Shoemaker.....	6	"
Mrs. Harold M. Shoemaker	6	"
Daughters of Lot Search	1	"
(Mrs. Poust, Mrs. Campbell and Miss Search)		
Miss Jane A. Shoemaker, The Americana Magazine.		
E. S. Balch, publications of the Numismatic Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia.		

SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 1922.

Adult visitors to the museum.....	1,290
Students	486
Children	3,139
Total	4,915
Volumes presented	938
Volumes purchased	66
Exchanges bound	89
Exchanges unbound	39
Magazines purchased	20
Total of books for year.....	1,052
Museum specimens received	170

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT.

Your President has chiefly to report during the last year great progress toward a well rounded organization, on duty daily, and equipped to serve adequately the needs of the student of local history, genealogy, geology, etc.

Since the last annual meeting the Society has lost our former Corresponding Secretary and Librarian whose death in April, 1922, terminated five and a half years of devoted and zealous service to the Society. He will always be remembered in this institution not only because of his valuable service but also because of the splendid Wren Collections of Indian utensils and implements which he made and donated to the Society.

During his last illness and until last November your then Assistant Librarian Miss Ernestine Kaehlin, who by promotion is now your Librarian, ably carried on the work of the Society, and collected and prepared the material for Volume 18 of our "Proceedings" which is now in press and will be distributed very shortly.

Last July we were fortunate enough to engage as Archivist Mr. Edward Sweetser Tillotson who has had an exacting training and experience in historical research, the editing, checking, and annotation of historical source material in his native State of Connecticut—the State of his colonial forefathers. His assistance has already become invaluable.

In November your Officers and Trustees made a united and eventually successful effort to obtain Miss Frances Dorrance as the Director and in fact general manager of the daily activities and public utility of this Society, its library, records and museum.

I have no hesitancy in submitting that you could not have found a more qualified, or abler person, or one more interested in your work. She is a Bachelor of Arts of Vassar (1900), a Bachelor of Library Science of the New York State Library School, a linguist and a former special student in the University of Berlin, Germany, from which place she made her exit, with difficulty, after the late war had commenced.

One of her chief endeavors has been to acquaint the public

with the assistance this Society and its records, library and museum can render. To the newspapers of our community we are deeply indebted for enthusiastic and unselfish assistance in this. They have gladly published Miss Dorrance's frequent articles each descriptive of a different or outstanding part of the collections, e. g., the Indian pottery (in the museum) and monographs in the Proceedings (in the Library.) Framed and unframed placards have been hung in various hotels, schools, and railroad stations setting forth the name, purpose, location, etc., of your Society. Descriptive folders and post cards have been printed for free distribution. About three hundred invitations to membership have been mailed this month, and Miss Dorrance has given several talks on the work of the Society to civic organizations.

Exhibitions of the Society's possessions, along special lines, have been held in the museum and library often supplemented by privately owned articles lent us for the purpose, in connection with National Education week, Thrift week (a Franklin collection) Lincoln's birthday and Boy Scout week. For the Boy Scouts, four afternoons were set aside and interesting talks provided on the Battle of Wyoming, Abraham Lincoln, Siberia and Pennsylvania Forestry. The speakers were Mr. Joseph Fleitz, Mr. George R. McLean, Mr. Lynn Emerich, the District Forester, and Miss Anne Dorrance. To co-operate with the Boy Scouts in preparing for their tests, our collection of birds was relabeled.

The Library Department has been enlarged; several hundred historical, genealogical, and Indian books and pamphlets having been added by purchase, exchange and by gift. Students wishing to use the material in the library are assisted in every possible way.

Many research questions have been received by the Society by mail. One requested information on the meaning of a long list of place-names in Luzerne County, asking for their origin, when assigned, and by whom. The Librarian spent two days in looking up this material and found information on nearly every name. In all about forty mail questions were answered.

An interesting exhibit of Indian baskets loaned by Miss Elizabeth Sharpe may now be seen in the Society's Museum;

and also one of about 100 reproductions of Washington portraits, loaned by Mr. William A. Wilcox. Among the many gifts to the Society a few outstanding ones are: The bequest of Mrs. Eleanor McCartney Bamford of all her genealogical books and research data. This means a wealth of information for the research work of the Society. She also bequeathed \$500.00, the interest to be spent for genealogical books, all to be a memorial to her mother. The Eleanor McCartney Bamford Memorial, contributed by the Wyoming Valley Chapter of the D. A. R., and together with contributions from others, amounting in all to about \$400.00, has been used in purchasing a set of New England Historical and Genealogical Registers. The portrait of the Historian, Charles Miner, has been deposited here by Mr. Isaac M. Thomas. The original volume of Probate Court Records of the "District of Westmoreland of the County of Litchfield, in the Colony of Connecticut," has been donated by Mr. William A. Wilcox.

At the meeting of the Pennsylvania Federation of Historical Societies in Harrisburg, in January, the Director learned of the discovery of many valuable and interesting old papers, now in the possession of the Susquehanna County Historical Society at Montrose. These papers, long searched for and considered lost, were discovered in a wagon-load of old waste paper in the New Milford printing office, and given to the Susquehanna County Historical Society. As these papers include the earliest accounts of the Susquehanna Company, and of their arrangements to come to Pennsylvania, also the founding of a 14th Colony with its Capitol at Old Tioga Point, they pertain particularly to the history of this locality. The Director of this Society asked permission to publish these in our Proceedings, and expects to have this permission unless something unforeseen should arise.

It gives me very great pleasure to announce this evening the gift, a few days since, of Mr. William A. Wilcox and the Heirs of Steuben Jenkins, of three volumes of the Early Records of Westmoreland, Litchfield County, Connecticut.

Ledger A, consists of 170 pages devoted to town meetings, surveys, township layouts, land distributions, judgments and executions, ear marks, etc.

Books 1 to 2, containing the early land records comprise

1033 closely written pages, of which unfortunately pages 1 to 4, and 607 to 678 inclusive, are missing.

We expect to publish these extremely valuable records as rapidly as our none-too-adequate income will permit—certainly in the near future.

Westmoreland Probate Court Records Liber A from 1777-1783, given the Society by Mr. Wilcox, is being published in Volume 18.

Miss Dorrance, as Director, plans for the future, A—A definite co-operation with school children, the details of which will be ready before the next school year. B—The forming of a collection of books and specimens and graphs descriptive and commemorative of Anthracite Coal and Coal Mining. A complete and representative collection on this subject seems most suitable and desirable.

To this program, I wish to add this: The increase of our membership by one thousand new members.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society,
Year ending December 31, 1921.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand, January 1, 1921—Check Account	.....\$1,170.89	
Savings " " " " " "	..... 5,523.49	
		<u>\$ 6,694.38</u>
Membership Dues	.....	650.00
Life Memberships	.....	100.00
Addresses	.....	25.00
Income from Investments	.....	3,963.81
Investment Account, Investments Paid, etc.	.....	6,228.07
Luzerne County Appropriation	.....	200.00
		<u>.....</u>
Total Receipts	.....	\$17,861.26

EXPENDITURES.

Salary Account	.....	\$ 3,491.00
Incidental Account	.....	192.00
Telephone Account	.....	46.30
Insurance Account	.....	14.00
Interest on Special Funds	.....	1,110.00
Book Account	.....	100.00
Sundry Expense	.....	31.86
Addresses	.....	50.00
Investment Account, Investments made, etc.	.....	10,434.31
Balance—Check Account	.....	\$ 976.63
Savings " " " " " "	.....	1,415.16
		<u>\$ 2,391.79</u>
Total Expenditures	.....	\$ 17,861.26

Respectfully submitted,

C. W. LAYCOCK.
Treasurer.

SECURITIES IN HANDS OF TREASURER, DEC. 31, 1921.

BONDS.		Par.
United Gas & Electric Company First Mortgage 5% Twenty Year Gold Bond, due January 1, 1922	\$	1,000.00
Northern Pacific-Great Northern Joint Fifteen Year 6½% Convertible Gold Bonds, due July 1, 1936.....		5,000.00
Pacific Gas & Electric Company First Mortgage 6% Twenty Year Sinking Fund Gold Bond, due January 1, 1931.....		500.00
The Scranton Gas & Water Company First Mortgage 5% Bond, due January 1, 1923		5,000.00
The Wilkes-Barre Company First and Refunding Mortgage 5% Gold Bond, due July 1, 1960		1,500.00
Muncie & Union City Traction Company First Mortgage 5% Thirty Year Gold Bond, due 1936		1,000.00
New England Power Company First Mortgage 5% Sinking Fund Gold Bond, due July 1, 1951		5,000.00
Lackawanna & Wyoming Valley Rapid Transit Company Fifty Year Collateral Trust 5% Gold Bond, due August 1, 1951....		1,000.00
Columbia & Montour Electric Company Second Mortgage Thirty Year 5% Gold Bond, due February 1, 1943		1,000.00
Minneapolis Gas Light Company First General Mortgage 5% Gold Bond, due 1930		1,000.00
Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Company General Mortgage 4½% Gold Bond of 1892, due March 1, 1992		4,000.00
The Canton, Akron Railway Company First Mortgage 5% Gold Bond, due March 1, 1922		1,000.00
Webster Coal and Coke Company Consolidated First Mortgage 5% Gold Bond, due March 1, 1942		4,000.00
The Raeder Blank Book, Lithographing & Printing Company First Mortgage 5% Gold Bond, due October 1, 1922.....		8,000.00
The Plymouth Bridge Company 5%, due 1924		6,000.00
The Spring Brook Water Supply Company 5% First Mortgage Gold Bond, due 1926		11,000.00
South Carolina and Georgia Railroad Company First Mortgage Gold Bond 5%, due 1919. Extended to May 1, 1929 at 5½%.		4,000.00
E. I. duPont de Nemours & Company Ten Year 7½% Coupon Gold Bond, due May 1, 1931		5,000.00
The Sheldon Axle Company First Mortgage 5% Gold Bond, due December 1, 1930		2,000.00
Indianapolis, New Castle and Eastern Traction Company First Mortgage 6% Seven Year Gold Bond, due 1919. Extended to June 1, 1922		1,000.00
Consolidated Telephone Company First Mortgage 5% Gold Bond, due December 1, 1953		1,000.00
Certificate of Deposit of the Columbus, Newark & Zanesville Electric Railway Company First Mortgage 5% Gold Bonds, due March 1, 1924. Deposited with the Girard Trust Co., Philadelphia, Pa.		3,000.00
City of Philadelphia 4% Loan of June 29, 1916		2,000.00
		\$74,000.00

STOCK.

American Telephone & Telegraph Company Capital Stock—Six (6) Shares	\$ 600.00
Hazard Manufacturing Co., Capital Stock Forty (40) Shares....	2,000.00
	\$76,600.00

MORTGAGES.

Frank Barnes, @ 6%	\$ 850.00
Annie Mackin, @ 6%	1,000.00
John Bobak and Wife, @ 6%	2,150.00
Mary A. G. Barrett, @ 5½%	1,500.00
James E. Roderick, @ 6%	3,000.00
	\$85,100.00

Total Investments at Par Value.....\$85,100.00

C. W. LAYCOCK,
Treasurer.

WYOMING HISTORICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.
SEMI-ANNUAL INCOME, 1922.
BONDS AND STOCKS.

JANUARY AND JULY.

\$ 5,000 Northern Pacific-Great Northern, 6½%—1936....	\$162.50
500 Pacific Gas & Electric Co., 6%—1931.....	15.00
5,000 The Scranton Gas & Water Co., 5%—1923.....	125.00
1,500 The Wilkes-Barre Co., 5%—1960.....	37.50
1,000 Muncie & Union City Traction Co., 5%—1936....	25.00
5,000 New England Power Co., 5%—1951.....	125.00
2,000 City of Philadelphia, 4%	40.00
6 Shares American Telephone & Telegraph Co., Stock.	12.00
	\$ 542.00

FEBRUARY AND AUGUST.

\$ 1,000 Columbia & Montour Electric Co., 5%—1943....	\$ 25.00
1,000 Lacka. & Wyo. Val. Rapid Transit Co., 5%—1951.	25.00
2,000 Hazard Manufacturing Co. Stock	40.00
	\$ 90.00

MARCH AND SEPTEMBER.

\$ 1,000 Minneapolis Gas Light Co., 5%—1930	\$ 25.00
4,000 Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad Co., 4½%—1902.....	90.00
1,000 The Canton Akron Railway Co., 5%—1922.....	25.00
4,000 Webster Coal & Coke Co., 5%—1942.....	100.00
	\$ 240.00

APRIL AND OCTOBER.

\$ 8,000	The Raeder Blank Book, Lithographing & Printing Co., 5%—1922	\$200.00
6,000	The Plymouth Bridge Co., 5%—1924	150.00
11,000	The Spring Brook Water Supply Co., 5%—1926..	275.00
	6 Shares American Telephone & Telegraph Co.....	12.00
		\$ 637.00

MAY AND NOVEMBER.

\$ 4,000	So. Carolina & Georgia Railroad Co., 5½%—1929.	\$110.00
5,000	E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., 7½%—1931.....	187.50
2,000	Hazard Manufacturing Co. Stock	40.00
		\$ 337.50

JUNE AND DECEMBER.

\$ 2,000	The Sheldon Axle Co., 5%—1930	\$ 50.00
1,000	Indianapolis, New Castle and Eastern Tract, 6%—1922	30.00
1,000	Consolidated Telephone Co., 5%—1953	25.00
		\$ 105.00

Total Income From Bonds and Stocks.....\$1,951.50

MORTGAGES.

\$ 850	Frank Barnes, February and August 18th, @ 6%.....	\$ 25.50
1,000	Annie Mackin, February and August 18th, @ 6%.....	30.00
2,150	John Bobak and Wife, March and September 22d, @ 6%..	64.50
1,500	Mary A. G. Barrett, April and October 15th, @ 5½%....	41.25
3,000	James E. Roderick, Jr., May and November 28th, @ 6%..	90.00
	Total	\$2,202.75
		x 2
	Grand Total Income	\$4,405.50

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Year ending December 30, 1922.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand, January 1, 1922—Check Account	\$ 976.63
Savings	“ 1,415.16
	\$ 2,391.79
Special Funds, including balances kept by Mr. Wren in several different banks, which were transferred into one account in the Miners Bank.....	1,300.50
Sale of Books, books sold by Miss Kaehlin and Miss Dorrance since the death of Mr. Wren.....	28.60
Income Account, income from investments.....	4,258.91
Investment Account, investments matured and paid.....	7,667.57
Membership Dues, annual dues for the year 1922.....	625.00
Total Receipts	\$16,272.37

EXPENDITURES.

Addresses, at different meetings during the year.....	\$ 167.76
Special Funds, amount used during the year for the purposes specified	160.16
General Expense, repairs, supplies, gas, etc.....	603.01
Investment Account, investments made	11,064.17
Incidental Account, petty cash used in Historical Rooms..	141.20
Insurance Account, compensation policy	15.00
Salary Account	3,135.92
Telephone	43.30
Balance on hand, January 1, 1923—Check Account	\$859.12
Savings	“ 82.73
	941.85
	\$16,272.37

Respectfully submitted,

C. W. LAYCOCK,
Treasurer.

SECURITIES IN HANDS OF TREASURER, DEC. 30, 1922.

BONDS.

	Annual Income.
\$ 500 Pacific Gas & Electric Company, 1st Mtg. 6% 20 yr. S. F. Gold due 1931.....	\$ 30.00
5,000 The Scranton Gas & Water Company, 1st Mtg. 5% due 1923	250.00
1,500 The Wilkes-Barre Company, 1st and Refdg. Mtg. 5% Gold due 1960.....	75.00
1,000 Muncie and Union City Traction Company, 1st Mtg. 5% 30 yr. Gold due 1936.....	50.00
5,000 New England Power Company, 1st Mtg. 5% S. F. Gold due 1951	250.00
2,000 City of Philadelphia, 4% Loan of June 29, 1916, due 1946	80.00
1,000 Columbia and Montour Electric Company, 2nd Mtg. 30 yr. 5% Gold due 1943.....	50.00
1,000 Lackawanna & Wyoming Valley Rapid Transit Company, 50 yr. Collateral Trust 5% Gold due 1951	50.00
1,000 Minneapolis Gas Light Company, 1st Genl. Mtg. 5% Gold due 1930	50.00
4,000 Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Company, Genl. Mtg. 4½% Gold Bond of 1892, due 1992.....	180.00
4,000 Webster Coal & Coke Company, Consol. 1st Mtg. 5% Gold due 1942	200.00
8,000 Raeder Blank Book, Lithographing & Printing Company, 1st Mtg. 5% Gold Extended at 6% to 1932	480.00
6,000 The Plymouth Bridge Company, 1st Mtg. 5% due 1924	300.00
11,000 The Spring Brook Water Supply Company, 1st Mtg. 5% Gold due 1926.....	550.00
11,000 Wilkes-Barre & Wyoming Valley Traction Com- pany, 1st Mtg. Extended 7% due 1931.....	770.00
4,000 South Carolina & Georgia Railroad Company, 1st Mtg. Gold Extended to 1929 at 5½%.....	220.00
5,000 E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Company, 10 yr. 7½% Coupon Gold Bond due 1931.....	375.00
2,000 Sheldon Axle Company, 1st Mtg. 5% Gold due 1930	100.00
1,000 Consolidated Telephone Company, 1st Mtg. 5% Gold due 1953	50.00
1,000 Indianapolis, New Castle & Eastern Traction Com- pany, 1st Mtg. 6% Extended to 1932.....	60.00
3,000 Columbus, Newark & Zanesville Electric Rwy. Company, 1st Mtg. 5% Gold due 1924 (Deposited with the Girard Trust Co., Philadelphia).....	None

REPORTS.

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STOCK.

600 American Telephone & Telegraph Company, six (6) Shares	54.00
2,000 Hazard Manufacturing Company, twenty (20) Shares	80.00

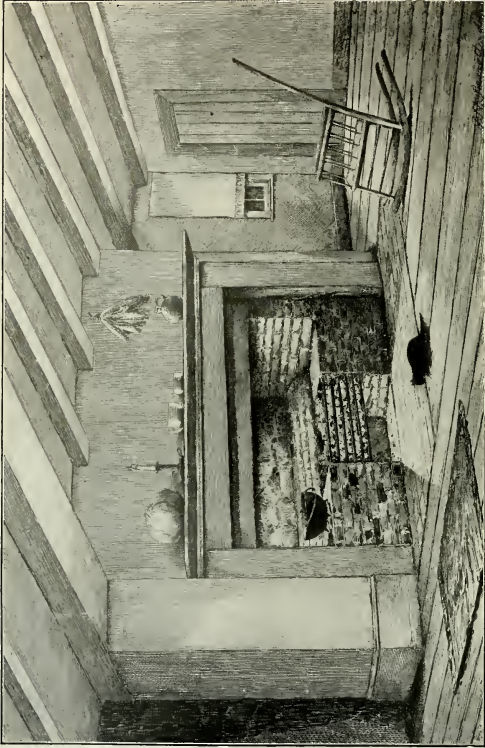
MORTGAGES.

850 Frank Barnes, Union St., Luzerne, Pa.....	51.00
1,000 Annie Machin, Union St., Luzerne, Pa.....	60.00
2,150 John Bobek, et ux, N. Washington St., City.....	129.00
1,400 Mary A. G. Barrett, W. Jackson St., City.....	77.00
3,000 J. E. Roderick, Jr., Carey Ave., City.....	180.00
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\$89,000	\$ 4,801.00

SPECIAL FUNDS.

1. The Zebulon Butler Fund	\$ 1,000.00
Given by descendents of Colonel Zebulon Butler for Ethnological purposes.	
2. The Coxe Family Fund	10,000.00
Given by the Coxe family of Drifton for the annual publication of the Society.	
3. The Horace Edwin Hayden Fund	1,500.00
Created by Rev. H. F. Hayden for Geological lectures.	
4. The Andrew Hunlock Fund	1,000.00
Given by Andrew Hunlock for binding.	
5. The Ralph D. Lacoë Fund	1,000.00
Given by the family of Ralph D. Lacoë for Geology.	
6. The Augustus C. Laning Fund	1,000.00
Given by his daughter, Mrs. George Cotton Smith, for Historical lectures.	
7. The Charles A. Miner Fund	1,000.00
Given by the family of Charles A. Miner for Geology.	
8. The Sheldon Reynolds Funds	1,000.00
Given by the family of Sheldon Reynolds for a memorial library of rare American history.	
9. The Stanley Woodward Fund	1,000.00
Given by the sons of Stanley Woodward, for Historical lectures.	
10. The Harrison Wright Fund	1,000.00
Given by relatives of Harrison Wright for a memorial library of English heraldry and genealogy.	
11. The Joseph Swift Balch Fund	2,000.00
Given by his brother for the purchase of books, (not genealogical).	
12. The Katherine (Searle) McCartney Fund.....	500.00
Bequeathed by her daughter for the purchase of genealogical books.	

The above funds are all to be kept intact, the interest only being available for the purpose specified in the gift. There are other needs for which members of the Society are urged to contribute to meet the growing work of the Society. These may be given direct, or as memorials, or in the form of bequests to the Society.



Room in the Old Fell Tavern in which Anthracite Coal was first burned for domestic use

LITTLE OLD WILKES-BARRÉ AS I KNEW IT.

BY EDITH BROWER.

READ BEFORE THE WYOMING HISTORICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY,
WILKES-BARRÉ, PA., OCTOBER 8, 1920.

In astrology, if one's birthday falls just after the 20th of the month, he is supposed to come under the influence of two signs. Yet these influences are often quite opposite to one

ERRATA.

Page	1,	line	22.	<i>for</i>	<i>epitone</i>	<i>read</i>	<i>epitome.</i>
"	3,	"	17.	<i>for</i>	<i>know</i>	<i>read</i>	<i>knows.</i>
"	3,	"	18.	<i>omit</i>	<i>the.</i>		
"	7,	"	12.	<i>for</i>	<i>developed</i>	<i>read</i>	<i>develop.</i>
"	29,	"	4.	<i>for</i>	<i>evening.</i>	<i>read</i>	<i>even.</i>
"	33,	"	33.	<i>for</i>	<i>enomous</i>	<i>read</i>	<i>enormous.</i>
"	41,	"	19.	<i>insert</i>	<i>the</i>	<i>after</i>	<i>through.</i>
"	43,	"	7.	<i>for</i>	<i>Lewis</i>	<i>read</i>	<i>Louis.</i>
"	47,	"	19.	<i>for</i>	<i>other</i>	<i>read</i>	<i>others.</i>
"	49,	"	28.	<i>omit</i>	<i>comma</i>	<i>after</i>	<i>sweetly.</i>

Old Wilkes-Barré easily stands as the epitome of them. In the course of my recollections I shall touch on them all. Their philosophical significance will not, I believe, be obscured because of their treatment from an individual and very concrete viewpoint.

My earliest clear recollection that is worth recording will, better than anything else, emphasize the *outward* changes which have passed over this particular spot of earth. I



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Room in the Old

LITTLE OLD WILKES-BARRÉ AS I KNEW IT.

BY EDITH BROWER.

READ BEFORE THE WYOMING HISTORICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY,
WILKES-BARRÉ, PA., OCTOBER 8, 1920.

In astrology, if one's birthday falls just after the 20th of the month, he is supposed to come under the influence of two signs. Yet these influences are often quite opposite to one another. The point where one sign passes into the next is called the *cusp*. I was born on August 24th, in Virgo, the sign following Leo, which carries wholly different influences. This fact—if there is granted an astrological fact—would appear to be symbolic, for in looking as far back in my life as possible and comparing those earliest years with the present time, it is as if I had truly lived *over the cusp*. There is no apparent continuity in the two periods—there is a jump. But I am referring not wholly to my own little individual life, but to the world's life. However present day ideas and tendencies may have been working out of sight, they made themselves but slightly felt during the middle, and part of the last quarter, of the 19th Century. That age passed out almost with a snap, or a bang, like the closing of a door, and the entrance upon this age was like emerging from a dusky cave into full sunlight. The respective differences in these two ages—social, religious, economic—would, even if slightly sketched, fill pages. Little Old Wilkes-Barré easily stands as the epitome of them. In the course of my recollections I shall touch on them all. Their philosophical significance will not, I believe, be obscured because of their treatment from an individual and very concrete viewpoint.

My earliest clear recollection that is worth recording will, better than anything else, emphasize the *outward* changes which have passed over this particular spot of earth. I

plainly see myself, a child of three, sitting in outdoor winter clothing, waiting for the stage-coach to stop at our house. It was the middle of the night, but the driver's hours were as uncertain as is to-day the outgoing train from Bear Creek to the Junction. Somehow we had to make Easton, over the old turnpike, in time for a rather early morning train, if we wished to be in New York City that day. The driver was not unlikely to be drunk—one had to keep warm, you know; but he always managed, so it was said, to land his passengers in Easton safe, sound and prompt. It lurks in my memory to have heard that sometimes on the return trip things happened that shouldn't when rounding the Devil's Elbow, especially in icy weather. All I can remember of the midnight ride is being so securely packed between two adults as to experience only the bouncing and none of the side-to-side tossing which made mountain stage-coach travel so exciting an exercise for torpid—or even normally awake—livers.

Four years later, returning to Wilkes-Barre from New York, we were landed at Kingston by the new D., L. & W. R. R., and entered town over the bridge in a quite modern omnibus, with seats along the sides. It was eight years before I left the valley again, and this time we climbed the "planes" in Solomon's Gap (now known as the Ashley planes). At top of the third plane the train for New York awaited us, and it took between eight and nine mortal hours to get there. It was, I think, about six years after this that the L. V. R. R. began to come steaming into town along the bed of the old canal.

The canal! The name carries magic for me. Everything about it was delightfully lazy and its very laziness meant charm. For nobody in my grandmother's house was ever lazy. To be sure, they rested—on summer evenings, and, except for steady church-going, on Sabbaths (rarely called Sunday in our pious community), in emulation of the Creator of heaven and of earth; such resting being regarded

not as a pleasure but as a religious duty, and if sometimes painful to strenuous, active persons, so much the better for the soul. But the canal had no soul, nor, probably, had the strange, dull-looking people who lived on the boats any souls, nor the pensive, apparently contented, boy who rode the *adagio* mule on the tow-path. It was an enchanted, non-human existence they led, forever "inching along" through the satiny water between dreamful green banks. On summer nights when I went to bed by early candle-light—though without a candle, for I was ever a lover of the dusky hours—the sound of the boat-horn, mellowly musical, filled me with unspeakable imaginings as if coming from "fairy lands forlorn". We lived only one block away, on Northampton street, corner of Washington, and I would often run down to the little bridge to watch and envy the nautical family, and wish that I might be kidnapped by the lazy boatman and carried off the Lord know where, to run about the the long deck with the boatman's children and sleep in the doll's house of a cabin at the stern end.

Yes, perhaps the stage-coach and the canal best illustrate the rusticity of our life and our outlook at the time when I began to merge into full consciousness. For the earliest Wilkes-Barré that I can now clearly visualize—looking back over unmentionable decades—was a village. It was the day of mud streets and ash sidewalks—that is, if the householder chose to dump his ashes upon them, for no ordinance governed this public-spirited act—the day when cows and even pigs wandered and cropped and rooted wherever they listed. Who says cows are stupid? At least they know the days of the week, or they did when the First Presbyterian Church, now the Osterhout Library, had a high iron fence around it, with locked gates. Cows in droves used to fill Franklin street in front of the church every Sunday—*on no other day*—waiting for the sexton to open for them the gates to a rich grassy feast. How he ever got them all out when closing time came, I do not recall. A good ecclesiastical collie would have been desirable.

It was the day when pigs were slaughtered in the butchers' back-yards. I, a child, vaguely thirsting in my little old Wilkes-Barré for excitement, used to tear across the street when I heard certain terrific squealings at John Fritz's, and hang on his back fence to witness the pig killing. This not from bloody-mindedness, but out of sheer human desire to know at first hand what was going on in the world.

It was also the day when people came to town in droves to see hangings, which took place in the old jail-yard on the southwest corner of Market and Washington streets. A very high stone wall did not discourage these eager folk, who were no more bloodthirsty than the little girl mentioned above. This same little girl never forgot her nearly unendurable sensations of envy when she saw more fortunate children, whose parents thought hangings proper spectacles for anybody, dragged along gleefully, if awesomely, to sit enthroned upon surrounding housetops where they could easily overlook the high jail yard. She would stand on the street corner of her big garden, look with longing up to the Market street corner, and when the "band began to play," indicating that the grewsome show had started, her emotions were unspeakable. Nor did she ever speak them to anyone. Not for all the dolls in the world would she have breathed to her guardians her sure-to-be-dreadfully-disapproved wish.

It was the day of unlighted streets, unless one carried a lantern. We owned a large horn lantern hung in the cellar-way, ready furnished with a tallow candle, to be taken if needed to the barn, or coal house, or to evening parties, or to evening church—for the path of the righteous did not always shine in those days. I had an aunt who died in my childhood at the ripe age of forty-eight (a transposition of those digits would better express her essential ancientness), who wouldn't miss divine service, not she! even though it were held at midnight, or if the heavens fell. They did fall one evening, and Aunt Abby fell, too. Her going had been

violently opposed by the other unquestionably pious members of the household: she was of such delicate health, and the Voice out of the Whirlwind said very plainly to reasonable souls that true religion would now for her consist in keeping dry and warm. But Aunt Abby (I revere her memory while I say it) was not notably reasonable. I can see her after her return; she had not reached the church. In spite of a lantern—which had gone out shortly; perhaps by reason of an umbrella—which whirlwinds seem sworn to exterminate, she had got into a deep, deep storm-swollen ditch on Northampton street and came home soaked and bloody and indescribably soiled. For days she carried a black-and-blue face and a variegated eye.

The candles in our big horn lantern were made by my grandmother herself, sometimes assisted by myself. Wicks were hung on long sticks, and these were dipped every day in a huge pot of hot tallow, allowed to dry, then dipped again, until a sufficient number of successive dippings brought the candles to the required diameter. Thrifty times were those. Every autumn my grandmother bought a pig—a dead one—and cut it up herself in the cold summer kitchen where the candles were manufactured. If candle dipping was a joy to my unworn infant mind, what was it to watch sausage stuffing! Pig meat was cheap when housekeepers sliced their own chops and cured their own hams—and such hams!

For the greater part of the year our cooking and baking were done in that large summer kitchen; the former over a big grate, furnished with crane and hooks, the latter in a huge, built-in Dutch oven. No iron range ever conceived of can do such cooking. As to roasting—we of to-day know the word but not the thing. Our beef and pork ribs, our fowls, were truly roasted, in a tin oven, with a "spit" and a dripping pan. Let no one accuse me here of violating the command of Moses: "Thou shalt not say the former times were better than these." Moses knew perfectly well that the

flesh-pots of Egypt were more toothsome than manna; he only meant to encourage forward-looking and faith in the future. The true epicures always knew the difference between direct fire-heat and hot air. For many years after the use of stoves and ranges, Mrs. A. T. McClintock clung to her large kitchen grate and her brick oven, and those of us who can remember eating in that house are grateful to her yet.

On the corner of Northampton and Washington streets was the quaint house with its lovely garden where I spent my earliest years. The house lay close along the eastern line of the lot, leaving all the rest of the grounds—160 feet front by 200 feet back—for flowers, vegetables and fruits, except where the barn stood on Washington street. Ours was the first flower garden ever regularly laid out in Wilkes-Barré. All the others, even of the richer folk, were more or less jumbled with the vegetables, as in country gardens. Ours owed its distinction to the fact that one of my grandmother's sons, breaking in health, came home to die, but kept himself comfortably alive for several years by out-door work. He had been in England and brought back with him what were then novel ideas in floriculture hereabouts. He laid out in his mother's ample grounds a true English garden, with walks broad and narrow, hedges and bordered beds, and flowers grouped as to color, not massed carelessly without regard to effect. It was a show-place, that beautiful garden, and I thank my fates that allowed me to grow up in it. Uncle Sidney's work had been done years before I came upon the scene, and almost my earliest recollection is of the long flower bordered walk leading straight down from the dear old rambly house to a garden gate in the high fence on the Washington street side, a gate having a latched door and over it a great arch covered with morning-glories, wild clematis—the other sort with purple and lavender blossoms wasn't known then—and Roxland roses. Why does one never see Roxland roses now? How red they were! and

how edible!—the only edible roses I ever knew. Their flavor lingers on my palate. Many a between-meal lunch did I make of them, when my grandmother wouldn't give me bread and butter and molasses for fear of spoiling my appetite for dinner.

The house, erected about 1832, stood until quite recently, though for long nearly hidden by the great brick block on the corner and by a one-story shop that covered the lower part of its front. Only a few weeks ago (at this writing it is October, 1920) was it demolished to make room for another tall warehouse. My grandfather had believed that this neighborhood was destined to developed into a desirable residence section. In this belief others shared. Mr. Charles Miner built on South Washington street, not far from our place; a portion of his house is embedded in St. Mary's Convent. Next door to us stood a quite large and well-built house, standing to-day. Its first owner I do not know; my earliest remembrance of it as inhabited gives me a picture of the Josiah Enos, and of myself, aged five, going over there armed with a penny (source unknown) and making the solemn proposal to Mrs. Eno to buy Willie, aged two, explaining that I needed a little boy to help me shell peas, a task I abhorred. It was my first experience in shopping, and the deal was not consummated. I went on shelling peas unassisted. Mrs. Eno—dear soul—betrayed me. I can imagine the twinkles in her twinkly eyes when she narrated my offer to my grandmother. She was always kind to me; I used to show her all my silly darling treasures, sure of sympathy. Other neighbors of those times whose names I recall were the John Fells (Mrs. F. was a sister of Gould and Charles Parrish); the Teetses, who later kept the bridge house; on the corner of Northampton and Canal streets (now Pennsylvania avenue) the Alexanders; on South Canal street the Gould Parrishes and the Francis Hunts. On Northampton, next the present car-barn, formerly market house, the Dietricks. One of the daughters became the

mother of the present John Stoddard. Good old Dr. Smith, father of Mrs. Gould Parrish, grandfather of the Parrish children and Mrs. Olin Harvey (Dr. H.), lived on Washington street half a block above us.

The block still higher up, on one corner of which the City Hall now stands, was the "burying-ground". It must have been laid out in the beginnings of Wilkes-Barré, for it was a ripe old spot when I first knew enough to take note of it. In no way did it differ in appearance from the huddled, untidy, rural burying-grounds of to-day. I can remember when the idea was conceived of removing it, and christening it with the grand and foreign-sounding name of *cemetery*. Sanitary notions had begun to penetrate our primitive minds. Besides this, the ground was needed for purposes of the living! Little Old Wilkes-Barré was outgrowing her baby-clothes and felt pinched in them.

Hollenback Cemetery seemed very far out of town, and safely so. The departed might have a good long quiet time of it up there. My father, on one of his yearly visits to the North—his last visit it was, for the Civil War broke out the following year and he died before the war was over—, superintended the exhuming and removal of our own family dead. Several strange tales he told us of the condition of some of the bodies. A little cousin of mine who years before had died at the age of two, had in that time grown hair more than a foot long. Before opening the coffin of one of my uncles, hair was perceived sticking out through the cracks along the cover. Inside, they found the casket fairly packed with hair, enough to fill a bushel basket. This caused great amazement, for no one hereabouts then knew that hair is a vegetable growth. Also my father told of how in a lot elsewhere in the grounds, the exhumers were hardly able to raise a certain casket, breaking several ropes in the attempt. When at last they brought it up, the body of a woman, it was discovered to have been petrified, possibly due to the soil in that spot being of a silicious character.

Opposite our flower garden, where Northampton and Washington streets meet, stood the Old Fell House. Originally built of wood, it was in that day of good red brick, two stories in height, with dormers in the steep roof. At the corner swung a pictured sign. Why were Inn signs always made to swing? This one creaked a lot, but there was nothing in the civic consciousness then to cause anyone to complain of it as a nuisance. Perhaps the noise it made was tacitly granted to be legitimate advertisement. The stage coach drivers patronized this stand well, for the nearest one going outward was at the old toll gates, where the Jersey Central now crosses the turnpike just above Georgetown. 'Twas a famous Inn, the Old Fell House, or should have been. In a grate in the main room of the wing did Judge Jesse Fell, in the presence of incredulous and unenterprising citizens, burn the first anthracite coal ever burned in a dwelling. *Vide et crede*. These gentlemen would appear to have been quickly convinced by the evidence of their senses, for it was not so very long after Judge Fell's object lesson—which followed years of unsuccessful preaching on his part—that the great Baltimore vein was opened and worked, the largest outcrop of anthracite at that time discovered in the world. For a long time was kept up the custom, which I clearly recall, of ceremonial yearly visits to that interesting house. A party of dignified, solemn-looking men would come down our way on the date of the initial blaze, enter by the side door the historic room and before the historic grate hold some sort of commemorative powwow. I doubt not that to the rite of fireworshipping was added a certain Bacchic rite symbolized by—to quote the Irishman—"not tay tay, nor coffee tay, nor chocularity tay, but plain, straight, unadulterated whisky tay." But I must hold in a possibly too riotous imagination.

On the northeast corner of Main and Northampton streets is to-day an old house associated with my earliest memories and giving me yet, whenever I look at it, delicious whiffs of

an atmosphere impregnated with the flavor of ancient elegance, the quintessence of provincial prosperity. Now, alas! it smells of commercialism—a clothing store in front, a cheap restaurant behind, and at the side a “shoe-parlor”! But for me the prim, quaint ghosts of the three Miss Perrys ever hover about it. Each one stands out clear on the film of that camera, my mind. If only these films might be developed! They were really-truly old maids—pure specimens of a type that one may go far to find in this 20th century. I think, judging by their excessive dignity and properness, not to mention their prominent teeth, they must have been of immediate English extraction. They did not *live* on this corner—they *resided* there; when they went to visit friends in Carbondale, or even nearer home, they invariably spoke of themselves as “going abroad”. Old English, plainly. Miss Eliza was not tall, yet an imposing person; she carried a large part of that person in front. She had been a school teacher and never forgot it. She was the man of the family, having a mighty business head, which was needed, for the Perrys held large possessions in real estate. The three wore caps, of course, and brown frontlets to hide their own (presumably) grey hair; the caps were of black net and had black ribbon strings tied neatly on one side of their chins.

Miss Eliza could talk up to lawyers and shopkeepers and any kind of terrifying person. Miss Harriet was of a square build, a bit sandy in her coloring, very commonplace and practical; she kept house, and visited more than her sisters. Miss Mary was the baby of the family. They were all well over fifty when I was in my first decade, but Miss Mary had never done much more than emerge from swaddling clothes. She hadn't been allowed to do much more. Miss Mary was not trusted to do any of the work of the house—she might spoil things. As for business, that was something totally outside the compass of her intellect. She never went in the street unattended, not even to church. I

can't think what her sisters feared might happen to her— She was so far from pretty as I recall her, that no man, wicked or otherwise, would have looked at her twice. Tall, unimaginably spare, slabby, in fact, her head tiny, none of her features well-shaped, scrawny about her throat and cheeks, speaking in a high, squeaky, infantile voice, the voice of an unmusical child of six—I can hear it this very moment—poor Miss Mary Perry! I do seem now to see a certain humorous glint in her brown eyes—yes, they were very shiny eyes, with a warm shine, which makes me think that once she may have thought she would love life, only give her a chance. Maybe she ventured to take some innocent little chance in her fresh youth; maybe it was the indellible recollection of this that made Miss Eliza complain to one of my aunts that “Mary was so giddy they had to be careful about her.” Giddy! Ye Gods!

The house on the corner was the cleanest spot ever seen, with the kind of cleanliness that causes almost a pain even to quite decent housekeepers. And they were so careful of their furniture, these rich ladies. Should you go there on clear days you would find the carpets, stuffed chairs and table-covers on the sunny sides of the house spotted with newspapers laid over the places where the sun would cause fading. As the sun moved, the papers were moved about. Miss Mary was allowed to perform this simple and easy task. But she had to keep strict watch on the sun.

It lingers with me vaguely that Miss Mary survived her elder sisters, and in consequence had the time of her life for a few brief years. There were rumors of certain mild (not wild) jags on which Miss Mary went, but it was never publicly known that her deceased guardians haunted her on this account.

The Miss Perrys had a brother named John. He lived “abroad”, coming home but seldom. He, too, was elegant, both in speech and manner, small, dapper, and rather more vivacious than his sisters. He had a defect in his speech,

never overcome. Of an address I heard him make before a Sunday School, one passage has ever remained with me: "Now childwen, wemember this—ev'wything you do g'wows and g'wows. It is like a little sp'wing, that t'wickles out into a little st'weam, and soon the t'wlickling st'weam becomes a b'wook, and the b'wook g'wows into a c'week and the c'week flows into the g'weat wiver!" Mr. John Pe'wy danced from side to side of the platform as he uttered these words, gesticulating prettily with thumb and forefinger. I hear and see him as I speak of him.

It makes me feel like Mrs. Methusaleh when I say that distinctly on a film of my memory's movies is the Public Square with four buildings upon it. No, two buildings are blurry, hardly there at all—one was the Town Hall, I think, the other I have totally forgotten—its face is turned to the wall in my mental picture gallery. But the Academy, where my Aunt Laura taught for awhile under Mr. Nassau, and the "Old Ship of Zion" Church, these I have and can never lose. It was this church in which I first attended divine service. I spoke in meeting on that occasion, spoke much louder than the minister, for Dr. Dorrance was not of the shouting sort. In consequence I was debarred from further participation in sanctuary privileges until increasing years had rendered me more discreet. This was when the new Franklin street church came to be occupied. I was always glad when they said unto me "Let us go into the house of the Lord". Little Old Wilkes-Barré furnished few outside diversions for ardent minds, and a big building, with tall, bright-colored windows, the congregation in their Sunday toggery, a choir in a high angels' gallery singing as if their salaries were even higher—though never a penny went out of the church's exchequer to them; and in the high gothic pulpit beautiful Dr. Dorrance, in high white crumpled stock (he was my infant ideal of manly pulchritude), how should I not have liked it all? To be sure, we sat in the

front pew and had to strain the backs of our necks to see the preacher, who kept us on the strain with pretty long sermons; the prayers also were long and we took them standing like good orthodox Presbyterians. (How are the mighty fallen!) There are, doubtless, some living who still remember that Mr. Andrew T. McClintock never gave in to the new fangled custom—a questionable compromise with the kneeling ritualists—of leaning forward from your seat as if attacked by grief, or sickness. To the last Mr. McClintock always stood throughout the prayer, a stately, impressive figure, amid the bending multitude. Let me not forget to add that we sat down to sing, nor did our “spirit and understanding” appear to suffer thereby.

Yes, the church services were long, and cryptic of import to children of tender years, but to me at least there were ameliorations. My grandmother, a strict Calvinist, who followed all the back-of-the-hymnbook rites for behavior in church (is one of those old hymnbooks extant anywhere to-day?), yet believed in tempering winds of doctrine to lambs of the fold. When the fifthlies and sixthlies began to pour down upon us, with likelihood of seventhlies and eighthlies, the grandmotherly hand would slide slyly down into a great pocket in the full black satin gown—“Turkey Satin” it was; nothing too good to wear to the Lord’s house—and a dried prune or two would make me forget to kick the front of the pew or sit on too many sides of myself at once. Few grandmothers of this generation are so strict as mine was, but are many so kind, remembering their own youth?

While on the subject of Presbyterian Church manners, as set forth in the back of the hymnbook, I will add that, however other attendants upon our services may have regarded the injunction not to converse with anyone within the sacred place, my grandmother observed it to the letter. No orthodox Jew of to-day or Moses’ time was ever more scrupulous. The most friendly and cordial soul alive, she greeted no one either upon entering or leaving church and disapproved

of her family's doing so. This particular point of observance was something of a trial to my aunts, for the modern spirit was already creeping in—a fact that their mother could not quite ignore, as shown by her treatment of me. She granted me many privileges that she had probably denied to her children, for even Calvinists soften if they live long enough; yet I underwent many small restrictions that I suppose no child of the present day suffers. It will be observed that I do not use the word *suffer* in respect of myself; the extreme kindness of my upbringing made every restriction seem just and proper to me, and while living after the strictest sect a Pharisee, I never knew until pretty well grown up how much of a Pharisee I had been.

Here is an instance of tempered Phariseism and what the tempering led to. A very high swing hung between our two tallest trees. On Sundays a special grandmotherly dispensation permitted me—*on request*—to sit in the swing, *but I must not swing*. Now the ropes were so long that it was impossible to sit on the seat and remain entirely motionless—that is, if you were not a dead body, and I was anything but a dead body. The swing *would* move, sometimes an inch, often, I fear, several inches. Even the Bible made exceptions in Sabbath-keeping for “works of *necessity and mercy*”. This movement of the swing belonged to the former category. That point settled, my intellect, distinctly of the casuistical type, would go to work upon the following problem: If it was not wicked to swing, say one to two or three inches, sometimes—purely by unavoidable accident, you know—four, or even five inches, at what point would actual and punishable Sabbath breaking begin? How vast the difference, as reckoned in terms of religion, between five inches and the possibly damning sixth inch!

Thus early did the seeds of skepticism begin to sprout in a mind reared on the mint, anise and cummin of that now happily outworn theology. Do I hear my good grandmother turn in her grave as I write this?

While I have my hand in at confession, I might as well say that my sin in the matter of playing with dolls on the Holy Day was much greater than that just mentioned. I had a tiny playroom quite over-populated with dolls. On Saturday night they were all put to bed by their mother, presumably to stay abed until Monday morning. But when that mother passed the door of a Sunday morning, and pictured her children lying wondering at her neglect, the Fourth Commandment went all to smithereens. Hastily, surreptitiously, the dolls were dressed and set up in their chairs, and, so far as the mother is aware, nobody any the wiser. To-day many children of the orthodox may be seen carrying their beloved puppets and teddy bears on Sunday, and I know of no family where the playroom is taboo.

Those must have been pretty terrible times for youngsters that took too seriously the doctrines of Calvin as then taught in the Presbyterian Church and Sunday School. There was no mincing of statements. If you were bad, you went to hell and there you burned, forever and ever. Moreover, being bad was a much more subtle thing than merely disobeying, or lying, or saying naughty words. If you didn't "believe", oh, a whole lot of things that no one could really understand, and that even big folk had to swallow unquestioned, fire and brimstone awaited you. I myself was quite naughty enough to have deserved all this, according to the current faith, and I can't guess what might have befallen had my grandmother dreamed of my not taking it seriously. That I did not take it so will be evident from the following tale. Two black-walnut trees shaded our house. Every year bags of great black caterpillars with white hairs used to afflict these trees, and the man who made our garden and did various chores for us would come and climb up and take down the bags carefully so that none of the horrid destructive creatures should escape. They were burned in our open kitchen grate. This was a time of inexpressible delight for me. I got the credit for being a

helpful child, and in addition I revelled in the intense realization of a theological tragedy, a vivid dramatization of Gehenna and its abominable lake of fire. "Grandma, may I burn the caterpillars?" "Yes, my dear, you may," and grandma smiled her benignant smile. Who of those big folk, seeing me stand in front of the grate casting in the fat, disgusting bags, could have guessed the hideous joy I felt at watching the worms wriggling and writhing and sizzling among the red hot coals? Temporarily I was the Lord God, righteously damning the wicked and glorifying myself thereby. I suffered with those agonizing souls, oh, yes, that was a part of the pleasure. Probably God suffered too, but then he must have liked it or he wouldn't have done so dreadful a thing. This annual episode served mightily to fortify my acceptance of the bloody doctrines so firmly held by my good, kind, tenderhearted elders. Be it made clear, however, that while in that squirming, tortured mass I saw all the sinners that on earth do dwell, I never saw the one small sinner who was enacting the part of Divine Justice.

It should be told what the pastoral call meant in my childhood—to me, at least. Something very pleasant indeed. It meant that at two o'clock or thereabouts of an afternoon, exquisite and stately, but most genial withal, Dr. Dorrance would come and knock, be cordially admitted, take the big mahogany rocker in our parlor (people had parlors then) and chat delightfully during the entire afternoon, finishing up his visitation by taking an early tea—not afternoon tea; no such function as yet existed in these United States—but respectable, hearty, "high tea". I don't think the Rev. Doctor prayed on these occasions, save in saying grace at table; he was truly pious but not *unco* pious; he would not mix professional things with those that were purely social.

I hold a definite impression in my memory of a gracious atmosphere that suffused an already gracious household when he came;—although a clergyman as well as a gentleman of the old school, he never frightened me with any

old-schoolism. When sent on errands to the parsonage (the present William Sturdevant house), I went cheerfully. There's a pleasant picture inside me now of Dr. Dorrance on the hearthrug in his study, bantering me, as children like to be bantered by kind grow-ups. As a foil to the portrait I have just sketched, let me tell of a terrible person, a peripatic preacherman, *hight* Ward, who dropped in upon us at unexpected, and, I suspect, inauspicious times. He must have put the unvarying courtesy of my elders to a severe test. To most of us in this twentieth century it would be an "acid test". Here is a portrait of him as he appeared to me, a child under twelve years: short, spare, swarthy, shabby, with a Calvinistic countenance—an expression such as Calvin probably wore when ordering the green fagots for Servetus—, and a manner indicating "this one thing I do", the one thing being, I am entirely sure, a most displeasing thing to my grandmother and aunts, who, the best people alive in the way of true piety, never talked their personal religion. But Mr. Ward was not of a reserved nature and moreover he represented that stripe of religionists who believe in speaking "in season and out of season," chiefly the latter, as, possibly, making the greater impression thereby. So, beginning with my grandmother and ending with the small granddaughter, he would move his chair around the dining room (after breakfast, for he invariably spent the night with us), talking in turn to each member of the family in an intimate, personal manner, questioning her present state of mind and heart regarding the most esoteric church doctrines, then kneeling and praying for us as if we had been a bunch of heathen. I know the grown people hated these visitations, though they never said it in words—that is, in my presence. I hated it myself, though I couldn't have told just why. If such a term can be applied in this case, it may be said that the episode created an *awkward* atmosphere. I tell it here to illustrate the changed attitude and manners of our present day "spirit-

ual pastors and masters". Our masters they are not; our pastors—in the former sense—they are ceasing to be. It is inconceivable to us that such uninvited inquisition into our private soul-life could now be made even by our own resident ministers, let alone an outsider and mere acquaintance.

The first church wedding—non-Catholic—ever given in Wilkes-Barré took place in the First Presbyterian. The bride was Miss Fannie Boyd, daughter of Dr. Boyd, immediate medical predecessor of Dr. Mayer. It was a mob, that wedding. Given in the evening—also an innovation—in full bridal array, with a long train of bridesmaids and groomsmen (the latter did not then usher), with no police protection (Little Old Wilkes-Barré had no police and no similar previous experience to serve as a caution), the public, invited and uninvited (the uninvited including everything we then had in the way of *gamin* and hoodlums) rushed, pushed and jammed itself into the freshly finished building. Around the jutting base of every pillar clung boys and even on the sloping window ledges. It was an event to be remembered, and it made town-talk for months thereafter.

Miss Fannie's was not the first marriage, however, in my private, personal record of days. A year before this I had been taken to witness the marriage of one of the "Annhäuser's girls"—so their friends called them—to Ferdinand Koerner, well known here as a mining engineer of no small ability, and a man, as I much later came to know, of wide learning and culture. This wedding took place at home, in the house at the rear of Mr. Annhäuser's store on the Public Square. Opposite, across the lane (then calley *alley*), stood Mr. Abram Strauss's store and residence, now the site of the "Hub". My propensity for speaking out when I shouldn't distinguished my conduct at this wedding as it had done in the old church. In preparing for this myster-

ious function, which I was to grace by my bedecked presence, I had asked how people got married (why they did such a thing was as yet far from my questioning consciousness—at the age of four one generally accepts food and facts with equal readiness and without cavil). A flippant young aunt told me that the act was consummated by the couple jumping over a broomstick together. This sounded most attractive. I myself had jumped over lots of sticks, if not broomsticks; only, mine had been *solo* performances. The *duet* promised some fun. My vision of that ceremony is deeply etched upon my memory; a dimly lighted room, the room “full of folk”, two conspicuously up-standing figures (male and female created He them), and in front of them Dr. Dorrance, uttering words as unintelligible to me as were his sermons, though they doubtless served some generally recognized purpose. Big folks were at best queer creatures who stood symbolically for a confusing variety of inexplicable purposes. I never bothered about them much at this period. My eyes were now glued to a certain door that led to the dining room. I was watching out for the broom, every moment believing the door would open and some person even more important to the proceedings than Dr. Dorrance would bring it in. The ceremony concluded, a stir began amongst the previously dead-quiet guests. But the closed door never stirred. I shrieked despairingly: “Aunt Ellen, where’s the broomstick?”

Before leaving the subject of marriages, a word or two more. There still lingered at that date the custom for an engaged girl not only to conceal her engagement from all but her nearest friends, but even to lie about it almost up to the last moment. A young lady, whose name I have mislaid, living opposite to us in a house afterwards owned by L. D. Harvey, the liveryman, when my aunts called upon her the very day before the wedding, denied that there was to be a wedding! This I imagine to have been a relic of the Puritan prudery that hung about everything connected with marriage.

But Puritan prudery had its inconsistencies. Are "kissing games," I wonder, anywhere in vogue nowadays? Do little boys and girls at afternoon parties "over the mountain", or much nearer town, indulge in such questionable sport? I played them until I was twelve years old. Nobody, so far as I know, ever took any exception to the custom. These games were conducted with a certain solemnity and with perfect good humor. The boy who got turned down by one girl went cheerfully and hopefully on the search for a more acquiescent one. In "Copenhagen" there was some violence, and no choice; whoever on the rope ring got his or her hand slapped must submit to be kissed by the slapper.

But in "Cushion and Keys" the lady was queen and might turn her head away from the kneeling suppliant for favor. A girl who showed overmuch roomy-heartedness, gathering in kisses from any source that offered, lost a certain social respect. If you permitted only one boy to kiss you, he was your acknowledged "beau". I had a beau—a lovely male creature; he is dead now and I won't tell his name. He wouldn't have so much as offered a kiss to any girl but me.

In the earliest years of the First Presbyterian Church (there was no second church then), colored folks with Presbyterian proclivities, having no place of worship of their own, were graciously permitted to occupy back seats with us. There were few of them and they rarely filled more than one pew. Among them came regularly "Uncle Tom Harper". I don't believe Uncle Tom knew Presbyterianism from Methodism, but he had the true Southern negro's love for those he considered fine white folks. At Sunday services he kept very quiet, though he must have suffered greatly from suppressed emotion, but on Thursday evenings his temperament would often get the better of his sense of propriety. Generally he would do no worse than groan or mutter a bit, but on a notable evening, Dr. A. A. Hodge being then the incumbent, Uncle Tom grew marvellously

religious. He shuffled his feet and stamped with them, fairly shouted hallelujahs and glories, and shot forth amens as from a machine gun. Dr. Hodge suddenly stopped short in his talk and exclaimed forcibly: "Uncle Tom, be quiet!" And Uncle Tom was quiet forever after—in Presbyterian meeting. But he was sometimes too demonstrative even for the good Methodists of Zion Church on Northampton street hill, then commonly known as Zion Hill. Long after his pious exuberance had been checked in our prayer meeting he sought outlet among those of his color, who were more given to making a joyful noise unto the Lord than the cold Calvinists of Franklin street. But there, too, the poor old fellow found a certain sense of limit and measure. The minister on Mt. Zion, after a period of endurance, at last went aside one evening from his usual order of proceeding to make some very general remarks. He said that they liked plenty of fervor in this church, that if any of his people felt they were getting religion, why, they just *had* to shout it out, of course. Then the general tone drew itself in slightly as he went on to say that there were certain persons who came up from town (Uncle Tom lived with Squire Dyer on South Main street) and disturbed the meetings in a way they were not used to; and then, with a sudden hitch from general to particular: "I don't wish to be personal, but Brother Harper, I mean *you*."

As I have said, Uncle Tom lived with Squire Dyer in an old double brown house that stood opposite the present site of the Boston Store. I do not like the term "nigger", yet somehow it best describes this ancient African in his picturesqueness, and Tom would have been the last one to resent it. He was a typical plantation darkey, a runaway slave. Just how he came to stop short of Canada and get into the Dyer family I do not know, but for many years he had been there. Over six feet in height, lank, muscular, with huge hands and feet, his forward hanging head covered with whitening wool, his gait shambling to a degree

rarely seen at the north, even among the negroes—thus do I remember Uncle Tom Harper. This name was undoubtedly an assumed one, for he lived to the end of his days in terrible fear of being captured and carried back South. Never had he been known to tell where he came from. Few words did he ever speak, but they were always to the point. One day, as he slumped and shuffled along Main street, he approached a group of citizens talking together, among them a man whose name was *not* Morris, but who shall be called so here, one who would not have voted for prohibition or for putting the lid on anything. When he saw Uncle Tom coming, he suddenly resolved to be funny, or at least to get some fun out of the former slave. "Say, Uncle Tom, where on earth *did* you come from, anyway?" The old fellow stopped, looked out from under his heavy eyebrows and said with slow significance: "Don' make no diff'unce whar a man come f'om, Mass' Mo'is; make mo' diff'unce whar a man gwine. Whar you gwine, Mass' Mo'is?" and slumped on.

Speaking of the Dyer homestead reminds me that at this remote period Main street, on the block below the Square, east side, had a good many private residences; in fact, I recall no stores at all on that side in my childhood. The only dwellings I distinctly remember, besides the Perry mansion already mentioned, were the Overton's, a little below Squire Dyer's, and Dr. Dennis' where Ludwig's music store now is.

Squire Dyer's tall and very handsome daughter kept house for him. A beautiful and dignified presence she had. They took a little boy to bring up when Miss Margaret was about thirty, and the lad ten years old. I have heard it said that she used to spank little Henry Colt—when he needed it; no one accused her of brutality in her discipline. It surely never robbed him of respect or affection for her, nor inspired aught in the nature of fear, for as soon as he came of age he proposed marriage to Miss Margaret, and kept on proposing until she gave in and married him, he being then

thirty, tall, and as handsome as she, she being fifty and still beautiful. I can vouch for this part of the story personally, for I used to see them together, and a splendid pair they made, as even my inexperienced child's eye told me. "And they lived happy ever after" was the testimony of those who knew them well.

Among the notable colored folk of our village in the days I write of, though somewhat later than the days of Uncle Tom, was Solomon Jones. When the Fuller family moved here from Philadelphia after the death of the father, Henry M. Fuller, Solomon, who had long served as their coachman in the city, followed them to Wilkes-Barré. In addition to a secular occupation, by means of which his living was chiefly earned, he became a "local preacher" for Zion Church. Now Solomon, though deeply pious, was not learned, and great was his desire to be so. Grandmother Fuller has told me how, in Philadelphia, while waiting on his coachman's seat, he would study a spelling book. By such assiduity he had attained to a small proficiency in the reading art, not enough, however, to enable him to read the Bible at his meetings without much stumbling.

I can't remember just how it came about, but every Saturday evening for a long time Solomon used to come to me for help in preparing for his Sunday services. At first my help consisted in correcting him as he read out to me his selected passages. Naturally discussion of the various subjects often arose. Solomon thought I knew everything. I did know more than he, and he took my word on scriptural matter as authoritative, so that our Saturday night meetings grew into long and interesting talks. The family called it my class in theology. Solomon got into the way of airing the topics of his sermons, asking advice as to their treatment, and advice was always forthcoming. Why not? hadn't I attended church and Sunday School from my infancy up? And hadn't I taught my first Sunday School class before the age of sixteen. Talk about babes and suck-

lings! Whether praise was perfected out of my mouth I won't say; possibly the learned Judge Henry A. Fuller may be able to say. He was a member of that class and was called Harry. He was tall for his age, very slim, *very* shy; he wore long-waisted, tight roundabouts, and likely enough there was a snicker for the teacher somewhere inside that roundabout.

Well, to return to the Brower Theological Seminary. One evening Solomon had an especial and pressing problem before him. In the church community he was then ministering to, scandal was raging. He must preach against it. His mind, having sought prayerfully a suitable text, had now fixed on one. What did I think of its suitability? When Solomon wished to find a word in his Bible dictionary, even though the word began with z, he would go painfully through from the letter a (until I pointed out to him the alphabetical arrangement); similarly, he invariably began with Genesis when hunting for anything in the scriptures. So I found this passage for him, after he had said it was in the lament of David over Saul and Jonathan, marvelling as to what in that fine threnody bore on the subject of evil-speaking, called by Solomon, "scan'nle". He moved his big black finger down the page slowly and stopped at this verse: "Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askalon." Would that do for his text? he asked. And the professoress of theology—may the spirit of correct exegesis pardon her!—said it would do.

Eventually Solomon, the modest local preacher, attained to the dignity of a bishop! It's a question in my mind whether his advancement was in any way due to me, or to the fact of the M. E. Church being short of episcopal material. I'm inclined to think that the church made a good choice in this case. A bishop need not be scholarly, but he must be wise; also he must have the *cowboy* ability to "round up" more or less irresponsible masses of individuals. Solomon, I am sure, had these qualities.

The spirit of commercialism may have brooded over metropolitan centers in this way-back time, but never a flap of its wings was felt in this lovely valley where as yet only two mines had been opened—the Old Baltimore, and, later, the Empire. It was considerably after the time of which I am now writing that people who had owned large tracts on the hillsides of rough and seemingly useless land, found themselves suddenly rich by the discovery of great anthracite deposits underneath. Standards of what was accounted decent living were singularly low. *Very* poor folk were almost unknown, though each church had its little list of those who needed help. Nor was anybody so startlingly well off as to produce any strong sentiment of inequality in the community. A rather idyllic state of society it was that I spent my earliest years in. Shopkeepers kept what they wisely or otherwisely deemed sufficient to answer the reasonable demands of their customers. When goods gave out, they got more. If people bought, well and good; if not, hold on to the neglected articles until a demand should come! Bargain counters? Friday sales? Such wild-cat business methods were then not in the dreams of insanity itself. We had in Wilkes-Barré three regular drygoods houses—Mr. R. J. Flick's, Ziba Faser's, and, coming somewhat later than these two, Jonas Long's. Mr. Flick was a judicious buyer. He generally had regard to his likely patrons—patronesses, rather. Dress styles were simple, tastes mostly plain, and as nobody had much money, it was good form not to be extravagant. Once Mr. Flick, possessed by some manner of reckless spirit, took a great risk; he bought a piece of goods so handsome and expensive that no one would buy it, though its price to-day would probably sound ludicrous. Year in and year out it lay upon its shelf unbespoken. My aunt Laura was a rather advanced person for her day, quite ready to take up new ideas—unless they threatened to interfere with her religious faith (even there she was a heretic on one point, asserting that she could find no scriptural

authority for infant baptism). She had been in New York a number of times and always kept her eyes open. There she had learned that dry goods need not grow shop-worn if merchants were willing to make a small financial sacrifice. After the handsome dress-pattern I mentioned above had collected a lot of dust and was changing color on the outside and at the edges, my aunt began a systematic annual assault upon Mr. Flick's fixed economic principles. For several years she urged that before long he would lose *all* the money he had invested in the stuff, for it would become ruined and then nobody would buy it. Her argument was sound, as he could not deny, but he invariably replied: "I paid so much for it and I must have my price." However, whether by reason of her persistence merely, or because her reasoning at last got under his ancient shopkeeper prejudices, he decided that a customer in the hand was worth any number who would look, ask price, and turn away. He sold the beautiful dress-pattern to my aunt on terms that must have galled his soul, and she, with wizard fingers, so cut and made up the damaged goods that no damage was evident in the garment. I've heard her say that this was the sole time she ever beat down a merchant—an unwritten law in our family being against all such shopping manners; but her self-justification lay in the thought that she had really saved for her good friend Mr. Flick what would otherwise have been dead loss.

When I go out of a morning nowadays and pass many women of my acquaintance, who formerly never carried home anything much bulkier than a spool of thread or a piece of tape, laden with market baskets, flower baskets, even knitting bags, containing their household provisions, seeing them I smile, recalling my little self tripping along old Main street by the side of my big grandmother, helping her, as I thought, immensely by hugging the empty basket. On our return she carried it, and likely enough besides groceries (our great garden gave us all the vegetables we

needed), it held a meat roast large enough for the whole family. I smile because I know that these knitting-bag ladies have been to Percy Brown's and are rendering themselves beasts of burden to save ten cents ('tis hard lines to pay twenty cents for a quart of buttermilk, so why not take it home yourself and save the dime?), whereas my grandmother would have carried, if need were, a side of beef, because otherwise she would never have had it. Nothing except furniture was delivered from the shops. My two aunts would run up to Mr. Flick's or Mr. Fazer's after breakfast, buy themselves stuff for dresses, returning would cut out and put together the goods, and—believe it or not, but it's true—wear their new gowns to a tea party that same afternoon. Which tale implies a comment upon two matters: the rapid hand-work of those sewing-machineless times, and the simplicity of women's attire.

Apropos of sewing machines, we owned the second sewing machine that ever came to Wilkes-Barré, Mr. Gildersleeve's being the first. Uncle Gildersleeve, as we called him (he married my great aunt for his second wife), presented it to my aunt Laura. It caused as great a sensation in our unsophisticated neighborhood as Beechey and his airplane did when, a few years since, he gave a performance over our valley. Of course, it didn't save any labor. Underwear and outerwear began to take on ruffles and tucks. Besides, all our friendly neighbors brought their sewing to be done by the wonderful mechanical seamstress. Among other articles came Mr. Silberbach's new shroud. As an orthodox Jew—all our Wilkes-Barre Jews were then orthodox—Mr. Silberbach must have a shroud to wear in synagogue on the Great Day of Atonement. He had worn his old one so many years that it had become shabby. Now the orthodox Jewish shroud must be of linen; moreover it must be sewed with linen thread. Our machine was a Wheeler and Wilson. Enough said for all who know what I'm talking about. For those who do not, be it understood that if any man-made

mechanism was possessed of a devil, the earliest make of Wheeler and Wilson's could have matched Mary Magdalene. It had to be coaxed to run with Coates' best cotton; coaxing was no good at all when linen thread was offered it. My generous-hearted, patient aunt wrestled with the job vainly, and at last the shroud was sewed up with common cotton thread—unbeknownst, of course, to its owner. Good, honest Mr. Silberbach attended all future observances of the Day of Atonement that were spared to him, and was finally laid away, in a partially Gentile garment! *Horrible dictü!* Never before has this secret been made public. One has to wonder what Moses, prophet of broad vision, but teacher of meticulous ritual, would have thought of it.

It was one of my infant joys to go to the old synagogue on this greatest day of the Jewish year. It stood where the "Temple" now stands on South Washington street. So far as I remember I was the only Gentile who attended this service. Having been brought up on the scriptures of the Old as well as New Testament with a thoroughness not often found to-day, the ancient ritual had for me an atmosphere, a permeating charm hard to express. The women sat in a balcony—not behind a screen as in the more strictly orthodox synagogues, and I, of course, sat with them. To look down upon the seats full of solemn men, clad in their white grave clothes, uttering moans and groans as if from dismal charnel places, offered a keen stimulus and a rich food to my every-hungry imagination to which hangings had been so cruelly denied.

There were many Jews living round about us. A number of the families still represented here were our immediate neighbors. Opposite on Northampton street, next to the Old Fell House, dwelt one of the Burgunder brothers, then known, I believe properly, as Burgundy. It was after I grew up that the name got changed. Around the corner on Washington street were the old Simon Longs, with their many daughters and sons. Farther down that street Rabbi

Rubin. So we called him, though I have been told that he was not truly a rabbi but what is known as a cantor. However that may be, he seems to have performed all an orthodox rabbi's functions, evening to the slaying of the fowls and animals used by his people for food. Terribly scrupulous were those strict followers of the Levitical law. Old Mrs. Silberbach once said mournfully to my grandmother: "Your religion so easy, ours so hard." I can recall going into Mr. Silberbach's little grocery shop, a short way up street, at meal time, and seeing his boys run for their hats, for they might not eat with uncovered heads.

The original names of certain localities, now nearly forgotten by the older citizens, unknown to the younger ones, should have mention here. Already I've spoken of "Coalbrook"—then a tiny village—so named for a beautiful yellow brook of iron-stained water, as yet unpolluted by culm washings. Jumping to the other end of town, we alight upon "Rolling Mill Hill," a mellifluous name whose loss is ever to be regretted—extending from Hazle street as far as the present Newtown. Ashley—so-called—was not then to be found on any map, but went by the name of Newtown. To this day it remains a separate borough, though Newtown is now a part of Wilkes-Barré. To old Newtown came the Rev. William Day and his newly wedded wife—two of the simplest, purest young souls that ever lived and worked for the good of humanity. Here were their eight children born, and here, in the little Presbyterian Church they labored for years. To the Sunday School for several years, in rain, or snow, or sleet, or shine, tramped my Aunt Laura and two other faithful souls, often taking the railroad tracks in order to shorten their way. There may be other of my aunt's pupils yet alive, but the only one I know is "Willy" White, the druggist. I well remember how fond of him and of his little sister was my aunt. They always came to the school hand in hand, she said.

But I've wandered away from the old names. In the days I'm recalling, when we wished to visit "Moseytown", we walked over meadows lying to the south of the present South street bridge, and so came to a double line of dwellings lying along an uphill, stony road now known as Lehigh street. It was a quaint, neat village, semi-picturesque. Chiefly Germans lived there, cultivating their gardens after the German fashion, thus giving a somewhat un-American look to the neighborhood. Moseytown was named after Moses Wood, who owned a large tract of land lying over the hills in this direction. Moses was the eldest of six brothers who came here from England before my time, and became the possessors of much territory hereabouts and were in all their branches a most prosperous family. A goodly part of the land that lay along and below Ross street extending over to the Moseytown district, was also theirs and known as Woodville. Whenever my Aunt Abby said to me (Aunt Abby was a great visitor): "This afternoon we'll go to Woodville," I rejoiced, for it was exactly as if she had said we would go to New York or Pittston. It was *out of town!* It seemed a long way to Woodville. We had to reach it by walking down Main street—the only street except River then cut through below South street. We passed few houses, but mostly lovely meadows, some of these belonging to the Baker farm. The Bakers were Georgians, who had brought North with them wealth (for those days), intelligence, refinement, and a strong Southern accent. Their house, a plain colonial structure, set back some distance from South street on the south side, surrounded by beautiful trees, still stands, turned about, on the east side of Barnum Place; until recently it was owned by Mr. H. G. Shupp, now by Mr. Freas Brown. They were a large family, the Bakers, and good friends of our family and of all who knew them. The one I can most clearly envision now was Miss Eliza, a special chum of my Aunt Laura, who later, in fact in her old maid-

hood (as they then reckoned the estate of women past "a certain age"), became the wife of the Rev. Mr. Winn of Madison, Wisconsin. She was very plain, even to downright ugliness, with exceeding sandy-red and almost frizzly hair, green-gray eyes and freckles galore, but everybody liked to look at her, for her's was the gift of gifts—charm—the charm of utter goodness, sweet temper and sympathy.

Then there was also funny little Mother Baker. She seemed funny to me, for never did I see her sitting on a chair, but always crouching on a big hassock close by the fire place. Her Southern, sun-soaked system could never accommodate itself to the thermometer, or the barometer, of our intemperate zone.

One of the sons was Daniel Baker, the noted Evangelist. Once he came here to make a short visit at his parent's home, but he and Little Old Wilkes-Barré became so attracted to each other that he stayed for a year, conducting a wonderful series of Evangelistic services. During this famous revival many prominent men—among them Mr. Rutter, Mr. A. T. McClintock and others of that stripe, were brought into the Presbyterian Church. This must have taken place during my infancy; I remember it only by hearsay.

As the old borough of Wilkes-Barré stopped at South street on the south, so did it stop at North street on the north. Only one house do I remember on North street—the Lewis homestead, and there it is to-day, empty and dilapidated. On the north side there was also only one house, right at the head of the hill, built partly into the cliff, as one may yet see it if one looks for it.

When we drove to Pittston (East Pittston, for there was no West Pittston at this period), we generally went up by the "Middle Road"—following Main street (who now knows the Middle Road as a drive?) and came back along the river as presenting more beautiful views from that direc-

tion. What a lovely drive was the Main street one! So were all the drives, east or west, north or south, in the valley. The few scattered houses, though plain, did not hurt the eye by the unmitigated ugliness so prevalent to-day. Some of them were as nearly picturesque as it is given to the American hand to make them, our genius for making—and liking—ugly things being, I believe, the natural result from our Puritan heritages of fear and hatred of beauty. We are outgrowing it, thank Heaven! but very slowly.

If we followed the “back” road going northward, passing through Coalbrook, we came, not to Parsons, for the borough so named did not exist. Mr. Calvin Parsons’ house (still standing) and two others, together with a sawmill on the creek, constituted the entire neighborhood. When I went up on Friday evenings with my schoolmate, Anna Parsons—now Mrs. George Fish of Waverly, New York—to spend what nobody then called “the week end” with her, we used to walk over to see Carrie Miner, and we walked through a thick forest to reach her home. The William Miners and the Jesse Thomases were all there was of Miner’s Mills. Mr. Calvin Parsons used to tell me charming tales of how when *he* was a child, the forests there were thick all about his father’s little old house, and how he used to hear *wolves* howling outside at night. But this was Mr. Parsons’ tale, not mine. I can tell one of my own, not quite so fierce, though it has certainly a wild flavor, and will show how primitive were our surroundings even in my childhood.

I was probably seven or eight years old when, on a day always to be remembered in our family, as we were looking out from the house gardenwards, a deer, antlered, sprang over our fence on the Northampton street side, dashed in long graceful leaps across our garden, rose like an airplane over the high back fence, and——this was all anybody seems to have known of him! My people could never discover that another soul but themselves had seen the beautiful creature, although they inquired all about town. The deer

in his first leap over the low fence took two of the picket tops, and the gap remained long as a souvenir of the unusual occurrence, for it was years after my grandmother's death before we got a new fence.

How many living in the valley at present know, not because they have been told, but because they *remember* the original name, Shawnee, as applied to what we most foolishly and senselessly call Plymouth? Why wasn't the good old Indian word good enough to last? Why shouldn't we even now start an agitation to restore the name of Shawnee, just as the dwellers out in Washington are trying to restore to the senselessly called Mt. Rainier its primitive Indian name of Tacoma. Here's a job I recommend to the D. A. R.

Our immediate neighborhood was full of "Characters", many of whom I remember as such, though their names are gone from me. If I were writing a novel, with Little Old Wilkes-Barré for a background, I'd put 'em all in.

Just down the street—Washington street, below Northampton—lived Johnny Larkins. All the houses on that block, with two or three exceptions, from our place to South street, were little two-storied, or one-and-a-half storied, more or less shabby, affairs. One of the shabbiest was Johnny's. Other Wilkes-Barré gentlemen of that time, I doubt not, drank spirituous liquors all the way from moderation to excess, but Johnny was pre-eminently the "town drunkard". No day saw him unloaded, and we might have set our clocks by his happy homecoming three times daily between breakfast and bedtime. Occasionally a beneficent gutter got in his way and retarded his progress. Gutters were such comfortable stopping places for people whose legs or heads gave out; why did civilization abolish them? Might it have been in anticipation of prohibition? But Johnny always knew that an enormous *pot-au-feu* was awaiting him. Mrs. Larkins said that his appetite for solids was quite as great as for liquids, and she didn't need Browning

to tell her that when body gets its sop it holds its noise. Mrs. Larkins spent all her leisure time—*i.e.*, when she was not cooking or mending or cleaning the house—at the washtub. If she hadn't, there would have been no "eats" or drinks or clothing for anybody under her poor roof.

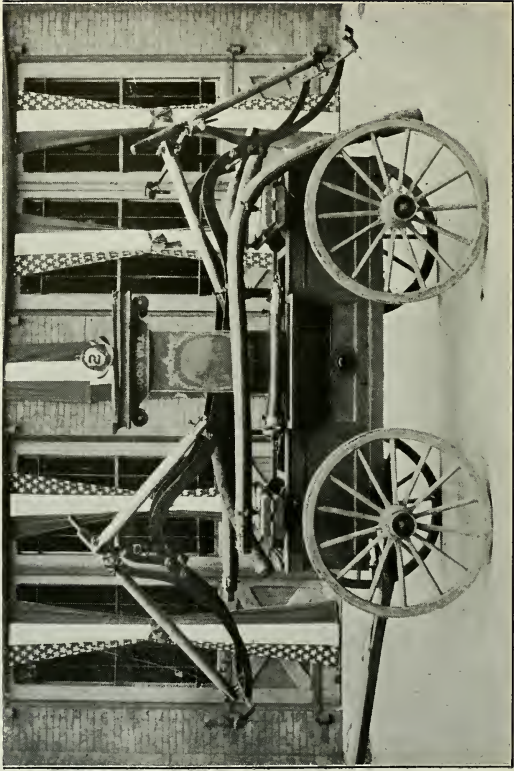
Mr. Larkins, being an Irishman, was full of Irish quick wit. Always he had an answer ready that could not be answered back again. Dr. A. A. Hodge once got himself in deep with Johnny. It happened in the Club House of that day—Mr. Rutter's store on the Market and Franklin street corner. A lot of men were standing about at the back end of the store gossi—I mean discoursing on—presumably—weighty matters of law, politics, business, religion, etc., when Johnny came in, tipsy and genial. "Dr. Archie", who was rarely serious save in the pulpit—a good deal of a wit himself—began chaffing the town drunkard on his evil life, promising him all manner of respectibilities on condition of observing total abstinence. "Why Johnny," he said, "there's no telling what you might become; you might even become a minister." Johnny backed, spread his arms dramatically, palms outward, and with all the disgust he owned in his voice, exclaimed: "Don't putt me with the ministers—I'm low enough already—don't putt me with the ministers!" And this was the last time that Dr. Archie talked mock-pious to Mr. John Larkins. He was a blarney, too, when occasion seemed to offer. I must have been about eleven years old, when, standing in the street corner of our garden, Johnny came along vocalizing after his custom. I greeted him, for no child was afraid of him, and we entered into conversation. He told me he was expecting to find a fine pudding at home and began enumerating the ingredients, which were heterogeneous and many. As he made no mention of sugar, I asked: "And how do you sweeten it, Johnny?" I see now the Irish grin that overspread his maudlin countenance: "I'll luk at you and thin I'll luk in the pot and thin it'll be swate." And this to a little girl at the "ugly age!"

When Johnny was well over fifty, a temperance—more properly, a total abstinence—lecturer came to town. Pledges many were signed, both by drinkers and non-drinkers. Some young men induced Johnny to sign. He was drunk when he did it—of course; when could he ever be found sober? But during the ten years remaining of his life Johnny never touched booze again. And what is more—as he told someone shortly before his death—he never had a wish to touch it. Which illustrates the truth of Dr. Stanton Coit's contention, that what we call "habit" is a "myth", a purely psychological fetter, easily to be loosened and laid aside *whenever the mind gets genuinely turned about*. It may be that while Johnny had the so-called habit, he had not the disease. He liked to get drunk; it enlivened existence for a man whose wife worked for his support. But *per se*, he wasn't a bad lot; somewhere concealed about his soaked person he carried a certain sense of honor, though up to this time it had done Mrs. Larkins no good. Having set his hand to a promise to give up drink, he forthwith gave it up. The promise acted as an alterative upon his entire system. He died—if not in a state of grace, yet sober. And, all things considered, that indicates a fair degree of some sort of grace.

There's a lovely tale anent Johnny's reformation that throws a most probable light upon it. He said that the reason he signed the pledge, and kept it, was to prove Father Hunt a liar. Father Hunt had held him up as the most dreadful example of a hopeless, incurable drunkard. It may be that Father Hunt really believed Johnny to be hopeless; if he had been more of a psychologist than I think he was, he might have made his terrible charge as an intentional appeal to human contrariness. It worked so, anyway. Johnny's *dander* was roused at being shown up for an incurable. Father Hunt should take *his* turn at being shown up for something almost if not quite so bad as an inebriate. Didn't the Holy Word consign liars as well as drunkards to a certain bad place!

On this same Washington street block, on a part of the ground now occupied by St. Mary's Church (Old St. Mary's being then on Canal street, now Pennsylvania avenue), was a tiny house in front of which grew an enormous poplar tree. Over opposite lived the Klipples—parents of Edgar Klipple. One day, when we were all together in our sitting room, somebody reading aloud to the rest, there came up a terrific thunder storm, causing such black darkness that we could not see each other save as dusky forms. Suddenly we all found ourselves on the floor. Nobody was hurt, but we later learned that the stroke which felled us had struck the mighty poplar—about 400 feet away—destroying it utterly. Mr. Klipple had been standing at his gate, in his shirt sleeves, watching the storm with a neighbor. Just before the great thunderbolt fell he said: "We'd better go inside," and turned about. At the corner of his house was a rosebush in full bloom. As he passed this corner the bolt fell, and on his white sleeve was photographed the bush, roses and all. I did not see it, but my Uncle Parsons did, and he told us that Mr. Klipple sold his sleeve for \$5.00. I've often wondered if the purchaser tried to have the impression set by chemical means, and whether any such attempt would be successful.

Romance, as well as natural wonders, had a dwelling down our way. It is not many years since a house a little to the south of the poplar tree, yet stood that covered a *very* romantic story. Frank Nösser (we used to call it Nurser) was a German stone-mason, a good worker and an honest man. How or where he met his wife no one here ever knew. Frank was a stumpy little dark man, and looked like one of his trade, but Mrs. Nösser was an undoubted lady. She used to go out washing sometimes, to add somewhat to the uncertain living that her husband made by his irregular occupation, but whether bending over the tub or hanging the clothes, she did it in the grand manner—so my grandmother



"Good Will" hand fire engine used in Wilkes-Barré 1849 to 1869

said. To me she was just plain Mrs. *Nurser*, and I thought she must have been so named because she suckled her youngest child until he was seven, for she couldn't bear to give him up as a baby. Once upon a time there came two strangers to Wilkes-Barré, a young man and a young woman, brother and sister, stylish and distinguished in appearance. They bore an old New York name that represented a family of wealth and importance. They were hunting up a long-lost aunt who had eloped with—Frank Nösser. Here at last had they tracked her. The story never came out fully; at least all I ever heard of it was that she refused to be acknowledged by her relatives, saying that Frank had always treated her very kindly and she was quite content to remain with him.

Food for many imaginings is to be found in these simple facts, which I might take for the kernel of that novel never to be written.

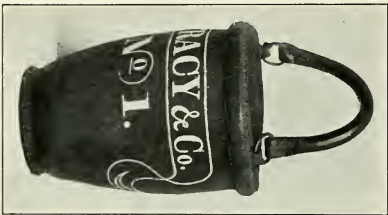
My two aunts, Laura and Ellen, along with every woman in town who possessed what we now call the civic spirit, belonged to the fire department. The department was wholly voluntary; even the men who pumped the funny little hand engine, named "The Good Will", gave their services under combined sentiments of altruism and self-preservation. "The Good Will" had been bought at second-hand in Philadelphia in 1849. This information comes from the present No. 2 Fire Company. It must have been a good engine, for it lasted us for twenty years. From my earliest days I can remember how my aunts went to bed nightly, with special clothing laid out ready beside them, things easy to get into, that they might at the first alarm of fire rush forth to help. Those horrible fire alarms! Nothing else could ever awaken me. Every bell in town jangled, every human who could roar, bellow, or screech, did his utmost in his special line. Aunt Laura and Mrs. Sarah Day (daughter of Mr. William

Hibler of South Wilkes-Barré) were the Lady Generals at fires. It was my aunt's office to gather and organize inside helpers, instructing them not to carry feather beds down stairs and throw crockery out the windows; in a word, while keeping her own head level—a task natural to her—to see to it that the others kept theirs.

Mrs. Day's part was the outside work of forming lines to pass buckets to and from the nearest pump. The pumpers, in case of a prolonged fire, must be very frequently relieved. Fancy the agonizing slowness of drawing up from great depth a gallon or two of water at a time! Again, fancy even attempting to put out a well-advanced conflagration by such means! The drop of water that Lazarus begged for to cool his tongue would have been quite as effective. Everybody owned fire-buckets of leather, hung in the handiest place. We had two, extra size, always suspended from the slanting ceiling above our back stairs.

Mrs. Day, after finding her well-pump, would impress every willing bystander into service. Two lines there must be, one for full and one for empty buckets. Sometimes these lines reached a long distance. At a fire that is quite vivid in my recollection, which broke out in the middle of the north side of the Square, the nearest available water was brought from North Main street, about where the Posten offices now are. Possibly what helped me to remember this occasion was that Mrs. Day, catching a man in the act of crossing over from the full to the empty side, threw the contents of the next full bucket that came along over this bad citizen, like the "captain courageous" that she was.

On Northampton street, between Dr. Matlack's house and "The Hampton", stood, until three or four years ago, a very old house. I think Uncle Gildersleeve built it and lived in it, too, but this was before my day. I recall it first as being the place where a little schoolmate of mine—Sally Streeter—lived, with her grandfather, Dr. Streeter. I mention Dr.



Leather fire bucket used by bucket brigade in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., about 1820

Streeter here by way of introducing the story of a much more interesting house which is now, I fear, little more than a mass of ruins. It was very familiar to me when a child. For a long, long period I did not see it, but once "Nell" Palmer (the present Countess de Silva) and I made a day's hike together in Hanover township to visit the ancient place. On the Hanover cross-road, midway between the River and Middle roads, we turned in southward and walked for a half mile or so through deep woods—a part of the old estate, which covered many acres. This occurred before the Country Club was founded, and I had brought Nell here, thinking it an ideal spot for such a club. We found the grounds neglected, overgrown, the old shrubbery destroyed, and the house rotting, partly fallen, and inhabited by several families of foreign birth, who could not speak English and were unmentionably dirty. The shock and disappointment to me I can hardly express. Let me tell of its origin, then try to give a picture of it all as I had last seen it, at the age of seven, in a good state of preservation.

Dr. Streeter was an Englishman from Warwickshire, son of the keeper of Warwick Castle, and born within the Castle's domain. Coming to the United States to remain as a citizen, he would build him a house to remind him of the one he was born in, it being the lodge of the castle. The house I am telling of was the exact *replica* of this, though possibly, smaller. It stood (I fear it is not standing now) at top of a hill, the lawn in front sloping gently down to a semi-circular hedge. An opening in the hedge opposite the broad stone doorstep gave an enchanting view over meadows that gradually descended to the main road a mile away, thence across flats to the river; beyond rose the background of western mountains. It is not so many years ago that one might, on the way to Nanticoke, looking eastward, distinguish the house on its hill-top. An unusual looking structure it was, built of stone, its *facade* a high, narrow gable, with a fine entrance door—of what we should call the colon-

ial type—and one not very large window above it. At each of the two corners flanking the door was a sort of triangular *loggia*, having at its outer corner a wooden pillar supporting the floor above.

Entering, one found a square hall, opening on the left to a small office, on the right to a winding, shut-in staircase. Immediately fronting the entrance a door led into the drawing room. This room had a single window opposite the door but that window occupied nearly the entire wall space, was beautifully mullioned and arched, looked out upon a lawn that extended to the forest, and gave also a view of the back buildings. These, as in so many fine European country homes, faced the main approach to the house. The walls of the drawing-room were covered with a paper brought from England, for nothing like it could be had in this country when Dr. Streeter built his house. It gave wondering delight to my eye, accustomed as I was to the ugly, coarse, wall-paper texture and patterns that were then produced. This paper bore a beautiful design of hunting scenes, including horses and their riders, hounds and lovely landscape.

Between the door of the drawing-room and the little office another door led to a room of mystery. It, too, had but one window, neither mullioned, nor arched, and commanding no view, alas! save of a bit of sky. It was one small pane high and three panes long, and it was placed immediately under the ceiling. Whether this gloomy apartment had, in the English prototype, been intended for—and used as—a “dungeon-keep”, or merely as a downstairs bedroom with window set high for safety, nobody seemed to know. Naturally, I held to the former opinion.

When first acquainted with this charming place, it was tenanted by the Ferdinand Koerners. Mr. Koerner was then engaged in boring for coal, having superintended the sinking of the “Dundee Shaft”, an unsuccessful attempt. In recent years coal has been found nearby, as the “Bliss

Colliery" will testify, but for a long period the old "Dundee" works decayed and slowly crumbled to the ground, making a desolate picture to match the "House on the Hill".

I never think of this old Streeter place without a feeling of romance and even of tragedy, for so it appealed to my childish mind. Its remote situation, its wild surroundings, its origin and foreign appearance, its singular interior, with the "dungeon" room—these things of themselves were enough to make a fairy castle of it to my imagination. But in addition, there was the horrible accident to Mrs. Koerner, occurring the evening before the birth of her third child, when an overturned oil lamp burnt her so shockingly that she lay for many weeks between life and death. They were miles from medical help, nurses were then not to be had. She must depend for care wholly upon her friends in Wilkes-Barré, who had to be driven down by turns for a day or a night of nursing. I remember the stories my aunts used to tell of driving along dismal miles of road and through dark forest in the winter evenings; of the weird lonesomeness that hung about the isolated dwelling, of the terrible suffering within doors, and the difficult, strenuous attention required in caring for the patient. A feminine Mark Tapley she was, at all times and under all circumstances making the best out of the worst. Whether pain or trouble came her way, they were ever to her opportunities for finest courage.

Yet another story stirred my sense of the weirdness of this house. Before the Koerners lived there, there came to it a family from afar that stayed but a short time. A daughter of the family was a personable young lady, to whom many of her neighbors in Wilkes-Barré paid the courtesies due a stranger. Once my aunt Laura got a chance to call. When Miss ——— came down to receive her, she wore a low-cut bodice, and coiled about her lovely throat lay a pet snake. How my aunt survived the visit I can't imagine, for she had an inextinguishable disgust for the serpent tribe.

It is a matter of real regret to me that the "dame schools" of Little Old Wilkes-Barré never entered into my experience except by hearsay. Rich would be the tales that could be told of them. There are still living some that attended one or another of them, and it would seem proper that they should jointly prepare a record for preservation in Wilkes-Barré's archives. Mrs. Hoyt, afterwards Mrs. McCarragher (she married the father of Samuel McCarragher), Miss Jane Miner, Mrs. Norton—none of these "dames" should be forgotten. First and last, nearly all of Little Old Wilkes-Barré got its three R's in their schools. As for the stories, I could tell some of them, but they would be second-hand stuff. I did not go to school at all until I was nine, and then but for a few weeks, on account of whooping cough, which, according to the barbarous custom of the time, kept me confined to the house for many months, not once breathing the direct outer air. So that it was not until the following autumn that school and I became really acquainted. But books and I knew each other very well, had done so for five years. The home-taught child is generally better taught—and for obvious reasons—than the one who gets its primary teaching outside. At ten I entered classes with girls of thirteen. Besides having read Mother Goose, Anderson's Fairy Tales, and an *unexpurgated* edition of the Arabian Nights (which I took in with the utter innocence of extreme youth),—having read these three classics literally to pieces; knowing almost by heart The Pilgrim's Progress (I still own the well preserved copy given me at the age of six); having read the Bible through from beginning to end more times than I can tell (this in daily family conclave. We always skipped most of the Book of Numbers; I know my grandmother questioned the piety of this omission, yet even she could not squeeze spiritual food out of that early Hebrew census); being pretty well versed in Ancient, English and American History; able to do "sums" in plain arithmetic about as well as I can now—

which is saying little; having a general idea of the rondure of the earth and continents thereon; more or less aware of the relative movements of sun and planets, I was fairly well equipped to enter the Institute, then known by the abominable name of Female Seminary. The building stood on South River street in about three-quarters of an acre of ground, just above the lot where to-day stands Mrs. Lewis H. Emory's house. On the north side was a little wooden house belonging to Mr. Edward Darling, where all his children were born, and on the site of which two of them still live. The frame of this small building was in very early days a wayside inn, and here, during the last decade of the 18th century, did the exile Louis Philippe stop while on his way through our valley. On this spot, also, it seems to me, the D. A. R. might well place a marker. Mr. Howes, assisted by Mrs. Howes, was Principal of the Seminary when I entered. In his great height, big but lanky build, and general type of head and of countenance, Mr. Howes might have been a brother to Abraham Lincoln. But oh, the difference in expression! If ever a face recorded the extreme of ungovernable passion and the absence of human kindness, his was that face; scholarship he may have had, but nary an atom of the teaching gift or of the inspiring personality which is the chiefest part of that gift. For such purposes he might just as well have been a mad bull. His portrait is vivid before me: A dark-skinned, large featured face, black "towsly" hair always on end; glaring blue eyes set in great caverns; a loose mouth with bitter expression whether quiet or speaking, and a black beard but no moustache. When unusually angry—he was always on the ragged edge of anger—his skin would turn a horrible dead-white. I can't remember that we youngsters were especially afraid of him, though some of us must have been. Such a temper as his and dignity cannot go together; lacking respect, whatever fear we may have felt worked mildly. It did not prevent us from playing tricks on him. He used to sit on a high plat-

form extending the width of the school room. The wooden flooring had knots in it. Once when Mr. Howes left the room, I scrambled up on the platform and placed a leg of his chair immediately over a knot-hole. To see those enormously long legs in the air refreshed our spirits mightily, but it certainly was awful to behold the white raging countenance after he picked himself up, and to feel the hot blazes from his wicked blue eyes, and to hear his impersonal outbreak of bad language—impersonal, for nobody got caught. I don't say this was a nice trick; it was atrocious—but so was Mr. Howes. The episode may serve to illustrate the essential immutability of human (child)-nature.

His wife was a lady, a New England sort of lady, small and plain, but very pleasant looking, perfectly kind, and a good teacher, too. I got somewhat of useful knowledge in her classes. She taught that impossible branch of learning—English Grammar. We called it grammar then; the term is unknown to the modern child—also the thing, so far as the method of imparting the subject goes. Happy Modern Child!

A school for boys was opened here sometime in the late 50s by Mr. Winfield S. Parsons, who afterwards married my Aunt Ellen. In the beginning it was held in the basement of the old Baptist Church, that stood on West Northampton street on the present site of Dr. D. B. Williams' home. All the boys belonging to the representative families of our little town attended this school, which made its first real impression upon me through a play given at the close of a year's term—a sort of "commencement" entertainment. The characters were taken entirely by the boys, even the women's part—a striking novelty in my experience. Handsome "Johnny" Doak—afterwards tragically shot by his friend, Frank Smith, innocently sporting with an unloaded gun, was the beauteous heroine, and my two handsome cousins, Alfred and Edwin Brower, carried important *roles*. The other actors remain with me as unnamed figures only.

At the time that Mr. Parsons married my aunt, he had charge of a school in Clifton Springs, New York, but after a year or two he returned to Wilkes-Barré, built a school house for himself where my grandmother's barn had been on Washington street, and there he remained until asked to succeed Mr. Howes as Principal of the Seminary, by this time called the Institute. The latter had always been a girl's school, but Uncle Parsons, as a condition of his acceptance, stipulated that he bring his boys along. He said his experience for many years of teaching had shown him that "co-education" is better for—the boys. Effect upon girls ignored! The boys were incited to more effort, he claimed, in presence of the other sex, partly, it would seem, because girls were quicker than boys at the same age. I rather think they are. I went to Uncle Parsons's school on the barn site at thirteen to study Latin, being for a while the only girl attending there. Uncle Parsons had a fashion of his own for instilling Latin verbs. We stood up in line as in a spelling match while he hurled at us fast and furiously: "Indicative mood, future perfect tense, second person plural of *Amare*"—or something much harder. No time allowed for hesitation or guessing. You hit it or you missed it. With no boasting, I may say I generally came out on top in this rivalry with a row of boys several years my senior. Uncle Parsons made a great point of Latin proficiency, for which I always thank him. I read much more than enough to enter me at any college. In the most advanced class of my last years of school there were but two pupils—Louis Landmesser and myself. We actually read Sallust, after having done our Caesar, Virgil, Horace, and Cicero all the way from his *Catiline Orations* to *De Senectute*. I on my part was unduly vain of my Sallustian accomplishment. How it was with Louis, I don't know. Only last month—it now being November, 1920, he went away on a very long journey.

Of the boys who attended school in the Washington street building I recall Benjamin Dorrance, Seligman Strauss,

Charles Shoemaker, Charles Kidder, Charles Sturdevant, Charles Dennison, Will Harrower, George Lewis and Isaac Thomas.

Musical taste in Little Old Wilkes-Barré was of the crudest. No artists came our way; "local talent" furnished the public entertainments. If a pianist could perpetrate Gottschalk's "Last Hope", she (male pianists were objects of scorn) was spoken of with bated breath; as for his "Last Smile"—well, last smiles meant *nunc dimittis, ne plus ultra*, and that sort of thing. One couldn't ask for more. Italian opera stood for the acme of public, concerted music, and, of course, one had to go to New York for that. Such pitiful puerilities as "Martha" and "Norma" were the favorites. Orchestras, save as accompaniments, were unheard of. "Absolute" music—its name and its being were unknown.

Perhaps I can best give an idea of how our village stood musically by telling of my own experience as a music pupil at the "Female Seminary". My earliest instructor there—I being then a chick of eight years—was a sweet young lady, Miss Hutchins, a daughter of the Principal. She must have been entirely sweet, since I have no bitter recollections of my course with her. The course lasted exactly one month, and to show what a promising as well as *performing* genius I must have been, at the end of that month I appeared on the program of a pupil's recital, playing—not a solo, it is true, but the bass of a one-page duet in the key of C Major with my teacher, who sat very close to me and knocked me in my little ribs with her left elbow when I halted, and put my fingers surreptitiously on the right keys when I stumbled over the wrong ones. Of C Major, or any other scale, I knew naught, nor—though my bass part must have meant the playing of chords—did a chord mean anything to my mind. I reached the end of my piece, if not in triumph, yet in time—or only a wee bit out—and everybody said it was wonder-

ful!—*such* a young child! and in a *month!* Well, it was wonderful—wonderfully bad. I ought to have performed a five-finger exercise, rhythmically and without counting (my teacher and I counted audibly throughout the performance), and known the keyboard from the notation, and a few other basic matters that I wasn't made aware of for some years to come.

The next incumbent to the Chair of Music in the Seminary was an elegant pale lady, Mrs. Seaver, presumably a widow, grass or hay, I don't know which. She continually swept the floor of the music room with her beautiful skirts as she promended during lesson time. "Giving lessons", she would have called it; but in truth she quite outdid her predecessor in the matter of giving nothing. Suddenly Mrs. Seaver and her lovely gowns vanished, and there followed as High Priestess of Apollo a curious swarthy, ill-featured Italian—Miss Ronzone, by no means an unattractive personality, notwithstanding her lack of physical beauty. Miss Ronzone got us a little further along than the other had done, with the aid of a long wooden knitting needle, with which she poked or tickled us according as we required praise, encouragement or correction. Everybody liked Miss Ronzone, but we liked Louise, her little sister, more. She was as pretty as Miss Ronzone was ugly, and had charming ways. Her skin was of a pure, pale olive tint, without other color; her eyes, too, were greenish, very bright and warm.

But her hands! Those smooth, soft, plump, tapering hands! How all we skinny girls envied Louise Ronzone her hands. And when she played the piano! Louise could place a marble on the back of her hand and play *prestissimo* without disturbing the marble. *Our* knuckles always remained humpy, no matter how hard Louise's big sister thumped them with her long wooden knitting needle.

We were all sorry when the good, pleasant Ronzones left us.

So far, I will venture to say, no Institute pupil who took

piano lessons there, had ever gained from any so-called teacher the faintest glimmer of even the existence of technique. Nevertheless, I, for one, did get a certain conception of technical playing from seeing Louise play and this prepared me for the next teacher who came—Miss Adelaide Gannon, a lady Irish of extraction, though English by birth and Roman Catholic as to religious faith—very devout in her formal church observances, very patient, amicable with her pupils, and the only teacher we had yet had who really taught us something. I well remember my first lesson with her. I was a scraggly youngster of thirteen, nervous, excitable, rather pert, I fear. But Miss Gannon was as kind to me as if I had been a nice child, and I soon grew to adore her. She knew no more of what the divine art really means than all the others who had gone before her in the Institute's Department of Music. But she did have an ideal, such as it was, and worked hard to make her pupils realize it. Her ideal had to do with "holding the hands right," *i. e.*, flat on top, putting the thumb under smoothly and turning the hand over the thumb without a jerk. These three things comprehended all that Miss Gannon knew of technique, but to her heathenly benighted class it was something entirely new, and to the little scraggly girl it came as a revelation. I became the star pupil, not on account of talent, but assiduity. Miss Gannon loved me as much as I loved her. Who would not love such a student? If Miss Gannon bade me practice a passage of four notes (one with thumb under, say, or third finger over) one hundred times, I made it two hundred. I always knew my lesson. There was now a definite goal before me. I agonized to hold my hands in playing as Miss Gannon did, as Louise had done. Wonderful compositions she gave me to learn. They were all transcriptions from the Operas, having countless pages of variations of the most appallingly impossible character. One of these—a *tour-de-force* I cannot see myself attempting now—carried the theme by means of two-octave skips. Talk of execution! If ever a piece of music got executed

I did it then and there. Miss Gannon promised me a gift if I performed this twenty-five page thing at the pupil recital without missing a note and without notes, if you please. I won the gift—a composition by my dear teacher: “Marietta Polka Redowa”, not worth the paper it was printed on.

A great day dawned for Wilkes-Barré when Mr. Cooper arrived. I don't know how to do justice to that day, or to Mr. Cooper. He was a great man—I'm free to say it, and however we got him here is a mystery. He used to curse the day that brought him, for he knew we weren't worthy of him, but he worked heroically all the same with the good stuff and the bad—and if *our* Wilkes-Barré is a musical town, and some say it is—to him be the praise. He started us right. He taught us from the first that notation and the keyboard are wholly secondary to music; that brains, not fingers, are required in order to *make* music; that without some conception of the *musical ideas* behind the keys and the notes, piano playing is mere mechanics—and worse, for mechanics is a useful art, whereas brainless piano playing is hideously unnecessary, in fact, a nuisance.

The dear man underwent much ridicule and reproach, for we were certainly a Philistine village. He wouldn't give his pupils any composition that was not good, even if not the greatest. At the recitals we played Beethoven, Schubert, Chopin and the best of the contemporary composers. Parents, guardians, and citizens in general were mightily bored by Mr. Cooper's “brainy programmes”, as they called them. Mr. Cooper would smile a pathetic, sweetly, sardonic smile—and go on giving his pupils brainy music. I have long wished fittingly to celebrate his just praises. My words now are but a faint whisper of what I should like to shout aloud at great length. A few are still living who would bear me out in all that I would say. If ever we have a Hall of Fame, one tablet should bear the inscription:

To the man who brought the first musical idea to
Wilkes-Barré

Eugene Gustavus Cooper.

Louis L. Praetorius has a worthy place in the story of our early musical advantages. Although he was never a teacher of mine, he belongs to the period I am dwelling upon. A thoroughly trained musician he was, of the German school, his practice well-backed by theory. He both played and taught piano and organ. For years he had the organ in the First Presbyterian Church, afterwards in the First Methodist. For me, personally, his chief distinction lay in the interesting fact that he had been, at the age of sixteen, in his native land, a member of an orchestra conducted by Felix Menhelssohn, playing, I think, among the second violins.

This record might be indefinitely extended to take in even a small part of the noteworthy characters living here within my memory. One that I knew well must not be left out. He has been already mentioned—Uncle Gildersleeve. For all his virtues and all his oddities he would require a volume. *Suaviter in modo, fortiter in re* would best express him in broad portraiture—"impressionism" they'd call it now. Terribly strong was he in his opinions and feelings, singularly calm in speaking them out, rarely raising his voice, hardly ever severe in tone. He never lost his "darkey" accent or his inability to pronounce certain sounds. It was *dis* and *dese* and *dem* and *dat* with him always. Early in 1800 he came to the North from Georgia. His father, Cyrus Gildersleeve, when the entire country held pro-slavery views, rebelling by nature against the hideous institution, long before the Emancipation Proclamation freed all his slaves and arrived here a comparatively poor man. Wilkes-Barré, reactionary from the start, nothing if not conservative, looked upon William Camp Gildersleeve, son of such a man as Cyrus, as a dangerous and impious radical. A man of the strictest piety, he was reckoned unfaithful to

his religion, for did not the Holy Scriptures uphold slavery? He was a "Red Republican". So were the Browers Red Republicans. These two families were the only ones in town that held the new views, and were consequently somewhat under the ban socially. I never felt this, but the rest of the family had felt it, even up to the very breaking out of the war. With few exceptions, all the clergymen in the United States preached pro-slavery. Dr. Dorrance preached it. The pulpit still arrogated authority, the people still yielded it a certain submission. But people and pulpit together later experienced a sudden and violent change. Well do I remember my Aunt Laura coming home, on the day after Fort Sumter was fired upon, and smilingly narrating how she had met Dr. Dorrance who, having for years fulminated (a strong term to use of him) against the unscriptural ungodliness of all anti-slavery folk, was now almost in a rage against the South. And, I have since heard her say, from that time to the excellent man's death he apparently believed himself never to have held other than anti-slavery views! This was true, she has told me, of all the former sympathizers with the South hereabouts. There may have been a few "Copperheads" here and there; there were, in fact, but by-gones shall be by-gones and we will not name these mistaken persons.

Uncle Gildersleeve suffered a very definite and material form of martyrdom for his opinions. An anti-slavery lecturer who came here was entertained by him, in consequence of which act he was ridden on a rail, though fortunately escaping the additional torture of tar and feathers. For many years his place was a station of the "Underground Railway". I used to hear how, if one went to his house early enough in the morning, his kitchen would often be found full of wretched hunted negroes, ragged, filthy, panic-stricken, yet drawing breath freely in this temporary refuge. All were fed and in various ways cared for, then hidden in

cellars, barns, corn-cribs, smoke-house, or other buildings, to remain concealed until the following night, when one of Uncle Gildersleeve's big teams would carry them on their way to the nearest station—Tunkhannock.

Through thrift and business ability he had become a rich man, and a very benevolent one, too, though sometimes credited with parsimony because he steadfastly refused to give to objects that did not interest him or meet with his full approval—a right we all surely share with him. But he gave large sums in a private manner. This I know, because my Aunt Laura was for years his almoner. He would say to her: "You know better than I where the needy are who will not make their needs known; spend this as you think best," for he recognized her admirable judgment in all practical matters.

I have spoken of his calmness of manner even when his feelings were deeply stirred or his fondest opinions assailed. Every summer my father, who had lived in New Orleans from his youth, would come North for a visit. Among other joys for his little daughter, this also meant an afternoon and early supper with Uncle Gildersleeve. The dear old gentleman loved well what he called "creature comforts" and thanked the Lord for them in every grace at table. He thanked the Lord twice—before and after eating. He always sat in an arm-chair with broad arms, and on either arm sat an enormous tom-cat. Never a paw was put out during the most prolonged meal-time, never a miaow to say how torturing to the pussy palate were the sight and smell of these nearby goodies. But as soon as the last leisurely grace had been uttered—"returning thanks" it was called—two plates were prepared by the master of the feast, and then came the happy time for Jack and Tom.

Conversation at table was invariably upon pleasant topics, but on the special occasions I am referring to, supper had always been preceded by a heated argument between my

father and his host. It was inevitable at this date that any two men could meet socially and not discuss the question that was flaming ever hotter and hotter over the United States. My father, having been so long in the South, amid those of exclusively Southern feeling, shared in all the sectional prejudices. His temperament could not have been more excitable had he been born below latitude 30° , instead of above 40° . It's a striking picture I retain of those conversations. In a corner sat Uncle Gildersleeve, short and thick-set, his stiff right leg extended, his bright blue eyes hardly shining more than usual, his voice as soft, his utterance as deliberate as in the thanks so recently returned; my father's tall form fairly "stramming" up and down the room and he almost shouting his terrible arguments—which we of to-day know were no arguments at all. Sitting by was the innocent child, trembling lest her dear parent should fall literally upon her dear Uncle and demolish him, scarcely knowing where she herself stood when hearing such words as: "Would you have me marry my daughter to a negro?" This in piercing tones. Then, from the corner, slow, decided, but quiet, the answer: "No, I would not, but—," and again would burst forth the desperate dialectics of the pro-slavery side, from the really courteous gentleman who could not sit still and talk, nor keep his voice down when excited. Then a pleasant voice in the doorway announcing supper. The talk collapsed as suddenly as Looking-Glass Alice's race with the Red Queen and no more was heard of the fiery debate. Yes, fiery on both sides, in spite of appearances, for the Southern-born man who had given up his patrimony in his youth and throughout his whole life had shown himself the true friend of the slave, could never have been cool inside.

His extensive place, which must have covered at least fifty acres, looked like a veritable Southern plantation. About 300 feet fronted Main street, and here his house stood, but

several hundred feet back of the house it spread over to South street and so extended all the way to Canal street. Both Washington street and Gildersleeve Lane now run through the estate, on land that was once his farm. Along its borders he erected comfortable little houses; those that lay along the canal were of the "cabin" type and inhabited by negroes, many of whom he employed in farm work. One of these became his chief man about the place. This was Lewis Tucker, a runaway slave whom Uncle Gildersleeve had singled out from the many others that sought temporary refuge with him, as being one worthy to retain. Utterly illiterate was Lewis, as, indeed, were nearly all the slaves, but a more honest, faithful and efficient human being never lived. He raised a family of brains and first-rate ability. Of the children two are now living, in Philadelphia, prosperous and respected. One of them, a trained nurse, has been for some years at the head of the Fred Douglass Hospital in that city.

Uncle Gildersleeve's portrait would require many, many more details to complete it, so rich was his personality. Even while it contained many paradoxes, it was yet singularly self-accordant. Never did enthusiast—and his enthusiasms came nigh to fanaticism—hold his views with more apparent tranquility. But this gentleness of manner gave the greater force to his expression of them; I think that it was his exceeding assurance of belief in whatever he believed that made such quietude possible. And he always did what it is so difficult for most of us to do—act out the faith that is in us. For example: An extreme prohibitionist in regard to spirituous drinks—he was of those whose slogan was "Rum *and* Tobacco!" Many arguments on this point did he hold with all sorts and conditions of misguided men, and frequently met the retort: "Would you give up your tea and coffee?" Now tea and coffee were among his most prized "creature comforts" for which he thanked the Lord thrice daily. Yet in his old age

he relinquished both of these enticing stimulants in order that he might reply to his opponents in argument: "Yes, I have given them up." Of the heroic sort truly was he; one of those who would, if necessary to their own or another's moral benefit, cut off the right hand or pluck out the right eye.

While thus advanced on the practical side of religion, his doctrinal views were wholly reactionary, even at a time when many good folk were gradually loosening the tight bands of earlier teaching. No Puritan of the reign of King Charles the Second could have been more violently opposed to any sort of Christmas observance than he. One Christmas morning I, then eight years old, was sent to his house. I joyfully carried with me a beautiful copy of Anderson's *Fairy Tales* (extant to-day on my book shelf, coverless, its loose leaves carefully wrapped in paper) to display it before the South Main street family. Never before, nor ever after, was I hurt by the dear kind uncle, but *Christmas* and *Fairy Tales* together made too shocking a combination for even this gentleman. He burst forth as the Mathers or Jonathan Edwards might have done. I left the house nearly weeping and hugging my precious *Tales* for our mutual consolation.

That beloved grandmother of mine, under all her strictness, must have had a more open and pliable soul than Uncle Gildersleeve, for in the very last year of her life—she being then seventy-two—her daughters, who had come under more worldifying influences than she, persuaded her one Christmas Eve to hang up her stocking by the open chimney! I remember how she did it, laughing the while at her own silliness. But I remember, also, that when next morning she found that big stocking (she was a very large woman; I used to borrow her stockings to encourage Santa Claus's generosity to myself)—when, I say, she found her stocking crammed full of nice little gifts, she laughed without the shamefacedness of the evening before and explored it to its toes with an almost childish delight.

Such incidents as these, of slight importance in themselves, strongly emphasize the different world that lay on the thither side of the "cusp" in Little Old Wilkes-Barré as contrasted with Big Wilkes-Barré of the twentieth century.

And so might my annals go on endlessly. The things yet to be told about Little Old Wilkes-Barré would fill a quite big book. I could paint a black-and-white picture of the lovely flats when only one house—"Daddy" Newitt's, just over the bridge, was between us and Kingston, and not more than three or four houses, possibly four or five, all the way from the bend of the river below to the bend at Forty Fort. Of the two perfect elms that stood a short distance above the little grove on the Newitt farm, one skinny tree survives. The ice flood of 1879 injured both, and the weaker died long since. "Henry and Gertrude" we called them, from Campbell's "Gertrude of Wyoming". It was Gertrude that yielded to the terrible ice, and I shall be glad when poor Henry is permitted to follow her wherever it is that good and beautiful trees go.

I should like to describe "The Redout" at Union and River streets, the remains of a defense used during our British and Indian War—and of the sports we "kiddies" of the mid-nineteenth century had thereon. It rose on either side of the road—cut through I know not when—and above, on the right hand, where the car tracks now lie, was the canal basin whereon we skated when winter or our guardians permitted.

I should like to dwell upon those beloved days when we all walked to our picnics, whether they were held as near by as Mill Creek, or as far away up the mountain as Prospect Rock, or—wonderfullest recollection of all!—at the Old Baltimore Opening. In going to the Rock we passed through thick forests all the way from the Empire upward. No "Whiskey Hill", nor its more euphonious successor, "Georgetown Heights", then existed, nor any "Laurel Run"

with its summer cottages beyond. Mill Creek—to-day “Hollenback Park”, bare of undergrowth and traversed by a black ditch of culm-washing—was a fairy-like grove, with wild shrubberies, watered—please observe, *watered*—by a clear, placid, winding stream.

“The Old Opening” lives hardly now in the memory of any, yet it once had more than local fame, not only as showing the earliest outcrop of anthracite, but as a rich, well-nigh inexhaustible bed of fossils. Little Old Wilkes-Barré did not go away to spend her summers; she stayed at home in her unspoiled valley and entertained her city friends. Most of her gaieties were summer gaieties; in winter time, the sewing societies—held in private houses—formed for a large part her wildest dissipations. When the summer guests came, they were always taken to the Old Opening, where they loaded up with “rainbow coal”, and shell, fern and other fossils. Those among the visitors who had a soul for natural beauty as well as for natural curiosities rejoiced in the enchanting ravine into which the worked-out Baltimore outcrop opened. When I now drive to Bear Creek over the Mountain Boulevard, and reach the top of the hill above East End, I look with a distinct sadness down over a seamed and jumbled tract that suggests earthquake or direct volcanic destruction, and involuntarily my mind reconstructs one of the loveliest and strangest of scenes—a ravine not much more than an eighth of a mile in length, nor more than thirty feet wide, splitting the hill eastward and opening at the upper end to give a view of the Wilkes-Barre mountain. The floor of the narrow gorge was paved with flat rocks, over which flowed in summer time a little stream, doubtless quite covering them during the spring and autumn floods. On the left side a thickly wooded wall gave a soft green relief to the perpendicular yellow cliff opposite, the cliff pierced with ten square openings that showed like vast black doorways fit for giants of the elder world, leading into a vast cave floored with coal and yellow rock, and supported

by huge pillars of coal. Within this artificial cavern, once solidly filled with anthracite, remarkable fossils might be picked up without digging for them, while outside, on the ledge or shelf that bordered the stream, they also lay in abundance. Although this great outcropping vein was worked out, yet one could by walking underground for a distance reach the new Baltimore workings, where a shaft had been sunk, back of Coalbrook (East End).

Little by little the great coal pillars were "robbed", causing the cliff to fall in. To complete the tragedy, a fire broke out in the southern mine that proved inextinguishable unless the strong draught through the Old Opening were cut off. And so came the final ruin of the Giant's Cave, its picturesque beauty and weird charm destroyed by being broken up to furnish its own stuffing. The thing could have been done, I believe, without this utter wiping out of a spot of highest historic and aesthetic interest. In a more civilized land it would never have been sacrificed thus. The harmful draught could have been cut off farther back, leaving the outer part of the cavernous space untouched and a few of the front row of pillars standing. One must have coal, to be sure, but one must have beauty, too. Are we not told that where there is no vision the people perish? Right Valuations should teach us when to save and when saving is more extravagant than deliberate sacrifice.

As this paradox expresses broadly but quite inclusively my own life-philosophy, it may as well close my recorded impressions of Little Old Wilkes-Barré.

For grown-up Wilkes-Barré I have no better wish than that as she continues to grow she may attain for herself a standard of Right Valuations that shall not be lower than the highest.

WILKES-BARRÉ'S EARLIEST NEWSPAPERS.

BY OSCAR J. HARVEY.

READ BEFORE THE WYOMING HISTORICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY,
MAY 13, 1921.

PART I.

Some years ago the Rev. Mr. Hayden, the then Librarian of this Society, told me that a certain officer of the Society had remarked to him, somewhat emphatically, that he thought we were spending too much money, and occupying too much badly-needed space in our building, by collecting, binding and preserving files of newspapers!

In his comments he had made no discrimination, apparently, between the newspapers of to-day and the newspapers of earlier times. He seemed to think that after a newspaper had been read it had no further value, except as waste material, or as stock for a paper-mill.

I am quite sure that this critic would have been very much surprised had he learned that the leading libraries of this country—the *big* libraries, such as the National Library at Washington (named by law the "Library of Congress"), the Boston Public Library, the Newberry Library, Chicago, the Pennsylvania State Library, the Minnesota Historical Society's library—and scores of smaller public libraries and historical societies, preserve with great care the collections of newspapers which have come into their possession.

Few things are less valued by the average person than newspapers not of current date—unless they happen to bear a date that is very far from current. In *that* case they have a curious interest and no little worth. But few people appreciate how much that is of interest and value to the historian may be found in the columns of old newspapers. "Apart even from their value to the historiographer and the antiquary, few relics of the past are more suggestive or interesting than the old newspaper. It is, in mercantile

phrase, a book of original entry, showing us the transactions of the time in the light in which they were regarded by the parties engaged in them, and reflecting the state of public sentiment on innumerable topics—moral, religious, political, military and scientific.”

In those early days, just as now, some men and a few women resorted to the press to air their troubles. Some of the personal items were kindly in interest, even though they must have been disagreeable reading for the persons dealt with. Others were so amazingly free of speech that, in these days, they would certainly assure a fine yearly income to a certain class of lawyers who are wont to collect damages for actionable publications. A few other items even as curiosities, would now promptly be barred out of reprint. Many others had a quaintly delightful charm that belonged only to days the like of which will never be seen again.

I think it was Charles Dudley Warner who said: “The old newspaper was a broadside of stale news with a moral essay attached.” Evidently Mr. Warner had not read the “ads” of some of the old-time country weeklies. The advertising columns of some of those newspapers are generally more satisfactory with respect to the securing of historical data on phases of Colonial life, and life at a much later period, than the news columns, as the latter are usually of the most meager description.

What did it matter if local news were given in the briefest possible space? Everybody knew the gossip of the town. Why put into the papers? Therefore foreign news and advertisements were given more in detail.

The tradesmen of the latter part of the 18th Century were thoroughly posted in matrimonial, patent medicine and poetical advertisements, and their sense of humor in these respects was fully as rich as is occasionally seen in some of the more elaborate business notices of to-day.

Some years ago a writer in a London periodical said:

"One of the functions of a public library is to take care of the printed records of the locality, and there is no better conspectus of local history than a 'long set' of the chief newspaper. Even the advertisements become of value in time. Research into the history of towns, and even of villages, has become so popular of late years that we cannot afford to neglect such valuable sources of information."

Some eighteen years ago the following item was printed in a leading journal regarding the National Library at Washington:

"The Congressional Library is trying to find some way of preserving old newspapers. The authorities there, who are preserving the files of about 600 newspapers a day, are convinced that the use of old newspapers, and their value, will greatly increase in the future. As it is now, the old files are consulted constantly for information that can be found nowhere else. It is believed by students of the subject that within fifty years the newspaper files now in the library will be so fragile that the public will not be allowed to look at them except under great restrictions.

"The suggestion has been made that a few copies of all newspapers that are to be preserved be run off on substantial linen paper. Newspapers were once printed on paper of that kind, and those in the Library which were printed before the Revolutionary War are in excellent condition, while files only about twenty years old are already showing the effects of time."

I will note here, in passing, that, while engaged in gathering materials for my "History of Wilkes-Barré and Wyoming Valley," I examined with considerable care over 15,000 pages of newspapers published in Boston, Massachusetts; Hartford, Norwich and New London, Connecticut; New York City; Philadelphia, Wilkes-Barré and Kingston, Pennsylvania, and covering pretty fully, but not completely, the years from 1753 to 1875.

The files of the early newspapers of Wilkes-Barré and Kingston, owned by this Society, while being far from complete, are, nevertheless, very valuable; and, undoubtedly, there are no duplicates of them preserved elsewhere—except some miscellaneous issues preserved in our State

Library and in the Library of Congress, and possibly in the hands of a few individuals.

For twenty-six years following the first permanent settlements by the whites in our Valley, no effort was made, so far as we now know, to set up a printing-office here. For news from the outside world the settlers were at first dependent upon visiting friends and relatives, and occasional travelers passing through the Valley.

According to Stewart Pearce, in his "Annals of Luzerne County" (edition of 1866, page 451), "in 1777 a post-route, once in two weeks, was opened between Wyoming and Hartford, Conn., and Prince Bryant was engaged as post-rider for nine months. The expenses of this route were defrayed by private subscriptions. During the Pennamite-Yankee Wars all letters and communications were sent by private messengers, or by persons employed on private subscription."

In 1794 the first Post Office in Wilkes-Barré was established by the Federal Government, with Lord Butler as Postmaster, and for six years thereafter this was the only Post Office anywhere along the Susquehanna River from Nescopeck to the New York State line.

Pearce states that after the organization of Luzerne County (which was early in 1787) a weekly mail was forwarded between Wilkes-Barré and Easton, and that in 1797 Clark Beebe, the post-rider, informed the public through the *Wilkes-Barré Gazette*, that, as he carried the mail once a week to Easton, he would also carry passengers, *when the sleighing was good*, at \$2.50 each.

A large majority of the early Wyoming settlers being natives of Connecticut, they naturally turned to Connecticut newspapers for information concerning current affairs in the outside world. These papers were *The Connecticut Gazette*, *The Connecticut Journal*, *The Connecticut Courant* (published at Hartford) and, chiefly, *The New London*

Gazette, published at New London, in the County of New London—from which County, and the adjoining County of Windham, many of Wyoming's first and principal settlers had come.

I have here a copy of *The New London Gazette*, published June 10, 1768, just one year prior to the founding and naming of Wilkes-Barré. It consists of four pages, $8\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{4}$ inches in size, three columns to a page, and contains a very small amount of what might be called local news—including, even, the advertisements. The principal "local," relating to the Hon. John Wilkes, one of the two men for whom our town was named, and who, in March, 1768, had been elected a Member of the British Parliament, reads as follows:

"We hear from Norwich [New London County] that last Tuesday a number of the principal gentlemen in that town had an entertainment at Mr. Peck's tavern, adjoining the Liberty Tree, on account of Mr. Wilkes being chosen a Member of Parliament. All the furniture of the table, as dishes, plates, bowls, &c., were marked with 'No. 45.' A variety of healths were drank, among which were that of the King's, the Queen's, Mr. Wilkes', &c. The Tree of Liberty, we hear, is decorated with 'No. 45—Wilkes & Liberty'."

Eight of the twelve columns of this issue of the *Gazette* are devoted to letters from London, and extracts from London newspapers, dealing with John Wilkes and his doings.

Pearce, in his "Annals" previously mentioned, says (page 390):

"In 1795 two young men, whose names are unknown, came to Wilkes-Barré from Philadelphia with a small press and a few cases of type. They printed *The Herald of the Times*, the first newspaper published in the County. Prior to this date all notices, advertisements, &c., were put up on the town sign-posts, the first of which was erected in Wilkes-Barré in 1774, on the river bank. *The Herald of the Times* was issued for a short period, and was then sold by the proprietors to Thomas Wright."

As this Society does not possess a single copy of any issue of *The Herald of the Times*, I made diligent inquiry and

search in various localities in Pennsylvania and elsewhere, in the hope that I would have the good fortune to bring to light at least one stray copy of Wilkes-Barré's first newspaper; but I met with no success. Just about that time, however, I discovered in McMaster's "History of the People of the United States" (on page 573 of Vol. II, which had been published sometime prior to 1901) a foot-note containing a paragraph purporting to be an extract from "*the Wilkesbarré Gazette* of October, 1796."

Confident that no newspaper bearing the name "*Gazette*" had been published in Wilkes-Barré in 1796, I wrote to Professor McMaster on the subject, and, under the date of March 14, 1901, received from him the following reply:

"It is not possible, though a careful search has been made, to give you any information as to the whereabouts of the *Wilkesbarré Gazette*. If seen at all, it must have been in the American Antiquarian Society Library at Worcester, Massachusetts. As to this, the Librarian will gladly inform you. It may be that the reference was found in some other paper, duly credited to the *Wilkesbarré Gazette*."

An inquiry addressed by me to the American Antiquarian Society failed to bring to light a copy of either *The Herald of the Times* or *Gazette* of Wilkes-Barré.

In my opinion Professor McMaster either saw somewhere a copy of *The Herald of the Times*, and, in making his notes, erroneously gave the *Wilkes-Barré Gazette* as the source of the information he had obtained; or he found the item in question in some unnoted paper which had credited it to the *Wilkes-Barré Gazette*, as suggested by Professor McMaster in his letter to me.

Finally, about a year ago, I learned, by the merest accident, that a copy of *The Herald of the Times* was in the possession of Mrs. Clayton D. Fretz of Sellersville, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and, as soon as I could conveniently do so, I paid her a visit. She produced the paper, and explained that it had come into her possession from the

estate of her great-grandfather, John Bradshaw of Buckingham, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, who was a brother-in-law of Thomas Wright, sometime of Bucks County and later of Wilkes-Barré and concerning whom I shall have considerable to say hereinafter.

Just here I will state that Mrs. Fretz has copies of two other early Wilkes-Barré newspapers, to-wit: *The Wilkesbarre Gazette and Luzerne Advertiser* of January 21, 1800, and *The Luzerne Federalist and Susquehanna Intelligencer* of March 8, 1802. Neither of these issues is in the collections of this Society.

Mrs. Fretz very kindly allowed me to have photographs made of the headings of these papers, and also to extract from them such portions of the contents as I desired. Therefore, from the copy of *The Herald of the Times* I extracted everything worth while, and in consequence am able to give you this evening a pretty full description of what was the last issued copy, and probably is the only existing copy (now in the 124th year of its age), of Wilkes-Barré's first newspaper.

The paper consists of four pages, 10½x17 inches in size, three columns to a page. The heading, or title, reads as follows:

"THE HERALD OF THE TIMES.

"Wilkesbarre, Published by Benajah Hall.

"No. 52. Tuesday, October 31, 1797. Vol. I."

On the first page is the following editorial valedictory:

"* * * This Paper completes the number for one year, and, consequently, the publication of the *Herald* expires.

"We think it unnecessary to make any commentaries on the merits or demerits of the *Herald of the Times*, but only to announce its dissolution. It shall be succeeded by a permanent *Gazette*, which we will use our utmost endeavors and exertions to render far superior to the former; however, time will evince our intentions."

Judging by the first paragraph of the foregoing valedictory, as well as by the heading of the paper, one would say

that the publication of the *Herald* had been begun fifty-two weeks previously; to wit, in October, 1796. We learn however, from the original minute-book of "town-meetings of Wilkesbarré" (now preserved in the collections of this Society) that the *Herald* was being published here at least as early as in the month of June, 1796; for at a town-meeting held June 5, 1796, it was voted that a certain resolution then adopted should be published for "at least four weeks in *The Herald of the Times* printed in this town."

It is quite probable that, according to Pearce's statement (hereinbefore mentioned), the publisher of the *Herald* established himself here in 1795—perhaps late in the year—having issued his "proposals" (according to the custom of those days) for the publishing of a newspaper, and in due time received subscriptions for the same. But, owing to the fact that Wilkes-Barré was far distant from the leading commercial centers of the country, and that the routes and means of communication were very primitive and bad, it would follow that the bringing here of paper and other printing supplies would be attended with many difficulties.

Because of this fact, therefore, and perhaps because of the scarcity of patronage and cash, it may be presumed that, from the time the actual publication of the *Herald* was begun—say early in 1796—up to and including October 31, 1797, only fifty-two numbers of the paper were issued; and also, that at some time prior to this last-mentioned date the *Herald* "plant" had been disposed of by its proprietor (Benajah Hall) to Thomas Wright.

Articles dealing with the following-mentioned subjects are to be found in the copy of the *Herald* under consideration: "Common Sense in Dishabille" ("lifted," undoubtedly, from a New York or Philadelphia paper); "Violent Whirlwind in Connecticut" (which occurred on October 8, 1797); "Yellow Fever in Philadelphia" (75 deaths occurring between October 17 and October 23); "Treaty of Peace

between France and Portugal"; "Laughing is Catching"; "Election returns from certain Pennsylvania Counties"; a biographical sketch of Governor Chittenden of Vermont, then lately deceased; an original communication (evidently from a local scribe) on "Land Jobbing"—"which," states the writer, "in the degree it has prevailed in this Country for years past, is attended with the most mischievous consequences."

An account of a public dinner, given in New York City on October 18 to President John Adams, who was on his way from his home in Massachusetts to Philadelphia, the then seat of the Federal Government, includes a list of twenty-two toasts which had been drunk by the diners in real spirituous liquors!

A poetical "Address to Kosciusko, late Commander-in-Chief of the Armies of Poland, and Defender of the Rights of Man", consists of ten stanzas, three of which are as follows:

"Hail! noble patriot, brave, illustrious chief,
By tyrants exil'd from thy native land;
The generous bosom swells with tender grief,
To see fell despots o'er thy rights command.

"The first of heroes, mighty WASHINGTON,
Invites thee to the scenes of Vernon's mount;
Go, noble chief, be his adopted son,
And lose thy toils in Pleasure's crystal fount.

"When seraphs bear thy spirit to the skies,
Poetic numbers shall record thy fame;
Around thy tomb eternal trophies rise,
And stamm'ring infants learn to lisp thy name."

The two following items from the *Herald* give one a good conception of the kind of reading matter usually found in the "Miscellaneous" or "Literary" department of the early-day country newspaper:

"Nothing, perhaps, tends more to produce drunkenness in the husband than a scolding and peevish habit in the wife. When the former returns from business or company, and meets from the latter

a volley of reproaches instead of the smiles of connubial affection, is he not under a strong temptation to drown his disquietude and chagrin in premeditated intoxication?

"It is the part of a wife ever to receive a returning husband—whether late or early, drunk or sober—with smiles and apparent contentment. To tell him in tears she laments his long absence and his neglect of her company, will melt his heart to a confession, and work a reformation; but, with frowns to call him a drunkard, will arouse him to resentment and prompt him to revenge by extravagance and intemperance. A few endearing expressions, accompanied by a modest request, from an amiable woman, carry with them such invincible authority, that none but a monster could withstand or refuse a cordial compliance."

"LONGEVITY.

"Died, lately, in Ivernagh, Ireland, aged 112 years, Daniel Bull Macarthy, Esq. He was married to five wives; he married the fifth, who survives him, when he was 84 and she 34, by whom he had twenty children—she bearing a child every year. He was very healthy—no cold ever affected him. He could not bear the warmth of a shirt in the night-time, but put it under his pillow, for the last seventy years. In company, he drank plentifully of rum and brandy, which he called '*the naked Truth*'; and when, out of complaisance to other gentlemen, he took claret or port, he always drank an equal glass of rum or brandy to qualify those liquors. This he called '*a wedge*.' He used to walk eight or ten miles in a Winter's morning, with greyhounds and finders, and seldom failed to bring home a brace of hares."

What to us, just now, is the most interesting and informing article in this paper, is the following:

"Printing-Office, Wilkesbarré, October 17, 1797. Proposals are issued from this office for publishing a Weekly Newspaper, to be entitled

THE WILKESBARRÉ GAZETTE,
AND
LUZERNE ADVERTISER.

"*Conditions*. I—To be printed on paper of a demy size, and equal in quality to any newspaper in this State; and on the same type with which the *Herald of the Times* is printed.

"II—To be published early on every Tuesday morning. Those subscribers who reside in the town of Wilkesbarré shall have their papers delivered at their houses.

"III—A regular Weekly Post will be established, which will leave the Printing Office the moment the papers are printed, and will arrive at Tioga Point on the Friday following (unless the roads are rendered impassable by the height of the waters), by which all subscribers residing on the borders of the river, between Wilkesbarre and Tioga Point, will be regularly served with their papers.

"IV—Any person who will procure twelve subscribers, and hold himself responsible for their subscription money, shall receive a paper gratis.

"V—The price to subscribers will be two dollars per annum—one dollar to be paid on the publication of the 26th number, the other dollar at the expiration of the year.

^aVI—Subscribers desirous of withdrawing their subscriptions may do so at any time by giving notice to the Printer.

"VII—The publication of *The Herald of the Times* will cease on the last Tuesday [October 31] of the present month (which will complete the year), and, should due encouragement be obtained, the first number of *The Wilkesbarré Gazette* shall appear on the third Tuesday of November next.

"Should it be the general wish of the people in the lower part of this County, they shall be accommodated with a Post, who will serve them with their papers weekly (should the list of subscribers be numerous), by paying an additional sum of half a dollar annually.

"Subscriptions are received at most of the public houses in this County, and by the publisher, J. Wright, at this office.

"Terms of postage to be paid for *The Wilkesbarré Gazette*. The papers to be left in packets on the direct route of said Post, at such places as the subscribers may agree upon. Those subscribers who reside on the river between James Scofield's tavern (ten miles from Wilkesbarré) and the mouth of Tunkhannock Creek, will pay at the rate of half a dollar per year. Those between Tunkhannock and the Great Bend, one dollar per year. Those subscribers who reside below Wilkesbarré, between Nanticoke Falls and the South-western boundaries of this County, will have to pay at the rate of half a dollar per year. Those who reside between said boundaries and Berwick, to pay at the rate of three-fourths of a dollar per year.

"It is not determined whether the Post will be extended to Berwick. It depends upon the number of subscribers that may be procured in that quarter.

"Mr. Nicholson Marcy has agreed to ride Post from Wilkesbarré, by the way of Tioga Point, to the Great Bend, weekly. He will

leave this office at five o'clock every Tuesday morning, and will arrive at Tioga Point on Thursday evening. All letters left at this office for said Post will be carefully attended to. Postage on letters from Wilkesbarré to Asylum, the same as from Wilkesbarré to Philadelphia; to Tioga Point or Great Bend, in proportion. This first route will be on the third Tuesday in November next."

The first issue of *The Wilkesbarré Gazette, and Luzerne Advertiser*, appeared on Tuesday, November 28, 1797, one week later than the date of its promised appearance. Thomas Wright was the owner of the paper, and its editor, printer and publisher was his son Josiah.

Thomas Wright (according to a sketch of his life prepared by Dr. B. F. Fackenthal, Jr., of Riegelsville, Pa., and read before the Bucks County Historical Society in October, 1916) was born in County Down, Ireland, in 1748. He immigrated to America with his two brothers, Joseph and William, in 1763, and settled at Dyerstown, near Doylestown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. He secured a home in the family of Joseph Dyer; taught the rudiments of English to the children of the neighborhood, and made love to Mary Dyer, the daughter of his host. One day they slipped off to Philadelphia and were married.

In 1774 he applied for and obtained membership in the Buckingham Meeting of Friends, at which time his three small children—Joseph, Rachel and Thomas—were also accepted. In 1778 he took the oath of allegiance to Pennsylvania, which was objectionable to the Friends, and he was dealt with accordingly; whereupon he justified his act, and was disowned in January, 1779.

The public records at Doylestown show that he had many transactions in real estate. He is described in the deeds as being a "Shopkeeper." In January, 1783, he entered into partnership with Richard Backhouse to operate the Greenwich Forge, leased from Hugh Hughes.

About July 1, 1791, Thomas Wright removed to Wilkesbarré, where he made his temporary home at the inn of

Jesse Fell, who had come from Bucks County about 1785. Later, Mr. Wright removed his family to Wilkes-Barré, and they took up their residence on what is now River Street. There they remained until 1804, when they removed to what is now the borough of Miner's Mills. At that place he had built in 1794 or '95 a grist-mill, and later he built there a distillery and a saw-mill. This locality soon became known as Wrightsville.

Mr. Wright's wife Mary died August 20, 1803, aged sixty-three years, and on June 27, 1804, he was married a second time, to Mary Nelson, who survived him and died at Sunbury, Ohio, May 3, 1824. Thomas Wright died at Wrightstown March 25, 1820, and his remains now lie in Hollenback Cemetery, Wilkes-Barré. In an obituary notice, printed at the time of his death, was this paragraph:

"Through a long life he had been a very industrious, active and useful citizen. By the laborer and the mechanic he will be long remembered. He was a steady friend, and always ready to render his services among his numerous acquaintances. He died, as he believed, at peace with all men."

The public records of Luzerne County show that while living here Thomas Wright continued his speculations in land, and at one time owned a very large number of tracts in various parts of Luzerne County.

The *Gazette* consisted of four pages, 10½x17 inches in size, with three columns to a page. On the first page, under the heading, or title, was the motto, "Let Party rage, let Malice vent her spite; Truth we'll revere, and we shall e'er be right."

The following paragraphs are from an editorial salutatory which occupies a prominent place in the first issue of the paper.

"The editor, in presenting to the inspection of the public the first number of his weekly paper, feels himself compelled on the occasion—not for mere matter of form only, but from convictions the most forcible—to offer to their candor and good sense a few suggestions which he conceives to be indispensable. * * * The truly disagree-

able dilemma in which he is involved, resulting from the ill-success of his predecessors in the business, renders it necessary for him to be more explicit.

"A number of the people of this County have, from several considerations, become almost afraid to subscribe themselves as friends to the present effort to establish a periodical publication, however anxious they may be to evince their liberality and public spirit in promoting it. * * * To the objections that may be urged, and to destroy that too just suspicion which he has reason to believe has taken hold of the minds of his fellow-citizens, he [the editor] intends to make it his particular study in the course of his professional labors to wipe off that stain which has unfortunately been attached to the editorial character in this County, and to exert his abilities * * * in promoting the cause of science and useful information." * * *

The second issue of the *Gazette*, which appeared on December 5, 1797, contained the following announcement: "Owing to the indisposition of the Editor, we are under the disagreeable necessity of printing but *half* a paper this week." Also the following: "The printer of this *Gazette* is nearly connected with a certain bookseller in Philadelphia. Citizens of Luzerne, upon application to him, may be supplied with books, pamphlets, stationery, &c., at short notice. He expects, in the course of a few weeks, to receive a small assortment of school-books."

The only items of general news in this issue were an article on "French Affairs" and an account of the speech delivered by President John Adams at the opening of Congress.

In 1798 Thomas Harris delivered the *Gazette* to subscribers living between Wilkes-Barré and Tioga Point (now Athens, Penna.) He set out on his route from the printing-office at Wilkes-Barré every Tuesday morning at five o'clock.

In the *Gazette* in February, 1798, we find a table of local "Prices Current," from which we gather that fresh beef sold at \$6.75 per 100 lbs.; French Brandy, \$1.34 per gallon; Claret Wine and Sherry Wine, \$1. each per gallon; tea, \$1.

per lb.; lump sugar, 27¢ and loaf sugar 29¢ per lb.; Jamaica Rum, \$1.40 per gallon; country rum, 87¢ per gallon; Holland Gin, 86¢ per gallon; Wheat, \$1.25 per bus.; rye, \$1. per bus.; oats, 40¢ and Indian corn 67¢ per bus.; molasses, 54¢ per gallon; coffee, 23¢ per lb.; butter 16¢ per lb.; hams, 12¢ per lb.

In the *Gazette* of May 15, 1798, four stanzas of the new and very popular song, "Hail Columbia! happy land," were printed for the first time in Wilkes-Barré. In a later issue of the *Gazette* the publisher announced: "The new song, to the tune of the 'President's March,' is for sale at this office."

This song, set to the music of the "President's March," was written by Judge Joseph Hopkinson at Philadelphia early in 1798, at a time when a high degree of patriotic feeling pervaded the country. The song was sung for the first time in public at the Philadelphia Theater, and was received with unbounded applause. The theater was crowded, and "Hail Columbia" was sung eight times and again encored. Then the whole audience stood up and joined in the chorus.

On July 3, 1798, the following was substituted for the original motto of the *Gazette*. "To diffuse *Useful Information*; and to facilitate the inestimable blessings of *Order* and *Good Government*."

In the issue of July 24, 1798, is the following:

"Whereas, Simeon Bevens (clock and watchmaker from London), having in a clandestine manner taken leave of Wilkesbarré on the morning of the 15th inst., those persons who may have deposited their watches in his hands previous to his exit, are requested to apply for the same at this office; as all the watches found in his shop after his departure were placed in the hands of Thomas Wright."

In the issue of August 21, 1798, the printer announced that he had for sale at his office various books and pamphlets, "at a lower rate than they can [could] be had at any other place in Wilkesbarré." The published list of these books gives one a good impression with respect to the

kinds of literature which *probably* interested the Wilkes-Barréans of 1798. The list is as follows:

"The New Universal Gazetteer, or Geographical Index, containing a concise description of all the Empires, Kingdoms, Cities, Towns, Seas, Rivers, etc., etc., in the known World, and embellished with maps; Cook's Voyage to the Pacific Ocean, for making discoveries in the Northern Hemisphere—4 volumes; Morse's Universal Geography—2 large volumes; Buchan's Family Physician; History of Jacobinism—an interesting work; The Flowers of Ancient and Modern History—designed for the improvement of Youth; the new *Vade Mecum*, or Young Clark's Magazine—digested and improved to correspond with the laws of the United States; Fox's Book of Martyrs—revised and corrected, with great improvements; Hervey's Meditations; Zimmerman on Solitude; Thompson's Seasons; History of the American Revolution; Dodd on Death; Pilgrim's Progress; Religious Courtship; The Afflicted Man's Companion; Willison on the Sacrament; Pocket Bibles; Psalm and Hymn Books; *Fille de Chambre*; Penn's Maxims; Boyle's Voyages; Account of Algiers; Romance of the Forest; Adventures of Roderick Random; Gil Blas; Farmer's Guide; Account of the Pelew Islands; Fisher's Young Man's Best Companion. With a variety of other books and pamphlets, including an assortment of School and Children's books; also, blank books of different kinds, ink powder, Sealing-wax, Wafers, English quills, lead pencils, letter paper, etc."

In the *Gazette* of November 27, 1798, appears the following editorial valedictory, signed by Josiah Wright.

"To the subscribers to this *Gazette*: Nothing but the obligations in which the subscriber was bound to some near connections, would ever have induced him to undertake the task of conducting this paper for the year past.

"It was his determination to have relinquished this task at the publication of the last paper; but the assurances, which he has repeatedly received, of then having a successor, induced him to undertake the publication of the present issue, which is *the last that will appear with his name*. How far he has discharged his duty of an editor can only be determined by his numerous subscribers.

"The office remains in the hands of his father, and the next paper will appear in two weeks from this day."

In the *Gazette* of July 20, 1799, Josiah Wright announced that all debts due to him during the time he conducted the

Gazette were to be paid "to his father, or brother Joseph," who were empowered by him to collect the same.

Josiah Wright was the youngest son of Thomas Wright. He is said to have been a remarkable mathematician and a fine penman. For some time he followed the business of Scrivener and Conveyancer. In 1820 his office was on Northampton Street, near River Street, Wilkes-Barré. He became a member of Lodge No. 61, F. and A. M., July 22, 1799.

According to the announcement made by the retiring editor and publisher (as previously noted), the next issue of the *Gazette* appeared on December 11, 1798, and marked the beginning of Vol. II of the paper.

In the issue of December 18, 1798, the following unique advertisement appears, over the name of James Morgan.

"BEWARE OF THE DEVIL'S OWN SON.

"Ran away from the subscriber, on the night of the 14th *inst.*, John Rodrock.

"An indentured curse, in shape something like a man. He stands about 17½ hands high, is 22 or 23 years of age, swarthy complexion, with a large head, and a huge gash in his face extending almost from one ear to the other, passing at the same time between a pair of lusty, thick lips. He has a large nose, shortish brown hair, and dark eyes, above which are fastened a set of remarkable eyebrows, resembling a couple of gray wigs pasted to a smoked gammon. And as to devils—he has more in him than Mary Magdalene had.

"He is a thief and a liar. When he is dead it will not be safe to inter him in a graveyard. If you do, be careful to place him with his face downward, and put large stones on his grave, or he will be quick up again and plunder his nighest neighbor.

"Whoever takes up the above described sinner and returns him to the subscriber, shall receive by wholesale and retail the hearty curses of their humble servant."

With the issue of the *Gazette* of April 9, 1799, the name of Joseph Wright appears as "publisher and printer," and that of Thomas Wright as "proprietor." Joseph was the eldest son of Thomas. He was for a number of years, about 1814, a Justice of the Peace in Wilkes-Barré. He became

a member of Lodge No. 61, F. and A. M., December 21, 1801, and was Secretary of the Lodge in 1803 and 1804.

According to the "Reminiscences of Charles Miner"—mentioned hereinafter—Joseph Wright was "highly intelligent, and of manners wonderfully pleasing; a good talker, reader and singer, and an honest magistrate, but unfortunately addicted to liquor."

The following bit of family history is to be found in the *Gazette* of June 2, 1799.

"*To the Public.* Whereas my late husband, John H——, has posted me in three public places, forbidding all persons harbouring or trusting me on his account, &c. A pretty story, indeed, to communicate to the public. The truth is, which I can prove, I was married to John H—— (if that is his name) the 7th day of January, 1798.

"I was then in tolerable good circumstances, with nearly a half-year's provision in store. Since which [time] he has behaved in the most savage manner to me, abusing, and threatening to murder me and himself. He has of late been in an almost continual state of intoxication with spirituous liquors—and this is no new thing, either.

"Neglecting all business towards an honest livelihood, he is a devourer of widows' houses—and I am not the first one he has imposed on. He has two, and some say three, living wives besides me; therefore Mr. H—— need not give himself any uneasiness of my running in debt on his credit, for he cannot pay his old whisky debts. But, thank God! I have had no children by him, nor like to have.

[Signed] "Nancy H——."

In the issue of October 29, 1799, is the following piece of family news.

"Whereas I, Daniel Clay, through misrepresentation, was induced to post my wife Rhoda in the papers, I now beg leave to inform the public that I have again taken her to wife, after settling all our domestic broils in an amicable manner; so that everything, as usual, goes on like clock-work.

"Divorc'd like scissors rent in twain,
Each mourns the rivet out;
Now, whet and rivetted again,
We'll make the old shears cut."

In the *Gazette* of January 7, 1800, is the following notice, signed by Thomas Wright.

"THE PRINTER MUST BE PAID!

"More than two years have elapsed since the *Wilkesbarre Gazette* has been conducted by its present proprietor, and it is a melancholy truth that, during this time, his receipts from subscribers have not been sufficient to cancel his obligations to the paper-maker. After so long an indulgence he seriously calls on all who are indebted for papers or advertisements to make speedy payment.

"This will save him trouble and themselves expense. Cash will be accepted, and good, merchantable wheat will not be refused. Those persons to whom packets [of newspapers] are addressed, and whose names are hereinafter mentioned, are authorized to receive the amount of the subscription money; and a receipt from either of them will be a full discharge."

This notice is repeated in the issue of January 21, 1800, accompanied by a list of the men authorized to receive payments for Mr. Wright. The following is the list:

"William Kersey, Esq., Bath; Benjamin Patterson, Painted Post; John Konkle, Esq., Newtown; Capt. Luke Bates, Owega; David Paine, Esq., Tioga; Capt. John Spalding or Isaac Cash, Sheshequin; Peter Stephens, Wyalusing; Arnold Franklin, Breakneck; James Wheeler, Black Walnut Bottom; Capt. Solomon Franklin, Wysock; Isaac Osterhout, Tunkhannock; Abiel Fellows, Huntington; Nathan Beach, Esq., Salem; John Brown, Berwick.

"And all persons who are otherwise indebted to the subscriber, are informed that certain arrangements in his business require that every Bond, Note of Hand, or other Obligation, should be liquidated. An attention to this *hint* will oblige the undersigned, and those who disregard it may expect cost."

General Washington died at Mount Vernon December 14, 1799, and a few days later John Marshall presented in the United States House of Representatives at Philadelphia formal resolutions on Washington's death which had been drawn up by Maj. Gen. Henry Lee, a Representative from Virginia, who was unable to be in his seat at that session of the House.

On December 26 General Lee, at the request of Congress, delivered before that body an oration on Washington, which

was printed in full a day or two later in certain Philadelphia newspapers. One of those newspapers reached the office of the *Wilkesbarré Gazette*, and in its issue of January 21, 1800, General Lee's oration was printed, occupying four columns of the paper.

In certain recognized and authoritative books of "familiar quotations" and works of "handy" reference, it is stated that in the original resolutions prepared by General Lee and presented by Marshall, and in the formal funeral oration delivered by Lee, there occurred the phrase: "First in War, first in Peace, and first in the hearts of his Fellow Citizens"; but that at a later period some one substituted for "fellow citizens" the words "Countrymen."

In the copy of the *Wilkesbarré Gazette* containing Lee's oration the following paragraph appears:

"First in War—first in peace—and first in the hearts of his countrymen, he was second to none in the humble and endearing scenes of private life; pious, just, humane, temperate and sincere. Uniform, dignified and commanding, his example was as edifying to all around him as were the effects of that example lasting."

This indicates to my mind that, in the oration as delivered by General Lee, and as printed in the Philadelphia newspapers and reprinted less than a month later in the *Wilkesbarré Gazette*, the phrase used by General Lee was: "First in War, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

(The *Gazette* of January 21, 1800, is one of the three Wilkes-Barré newspapers in the hands of Mrs. Fretz as previously mentioned by me.)

In the *Gazette* of July 7, 1800, the editor announced that, the purchasing of rags at the *Gazette* office "being attended with more trouble than profit," he thought proper "to decline the business."

It will be understood, of course, that at that period all news-print, writing and book papers were manufactured,

not from wood-pulp, straw, or other materials—as now—but from *linen rags*.

In view of the establishing of a new post to Tioga, Painted Post, and other localities to the northward, the publication day of the *Gazette* was changed, in October, 1800, from Tuesday to Monday. At that time the printing-office was in the house of Joseph Wright (editor and publisher) on West Market Street, where Chahoon Hall (now the Beers Building) was built in 1859.

With the issue of Monday, November 10, 1800, the title or name of the *Gazette* was changed to "*The Wilkesbarre Gazette and Republican Sentinel*," while the original motto of the paper (See page 71 hereinbefore) was restored to the first page.

A week later Thomas Wright, the owner of the *Gazette*, announced in the paper that Charles Miner (concerning whom further mention will be made hereinafter) had been authorized to collect balances due on subscriptions to the paper antedating May 20, 1800; that he was then "on his way up the river for the purpose", and that "cash or grain would be accepted by him" in settlement of accounts.

In the *Gazette* of December 8, 1800, the following editorial notice appeared:

"*To the Public.* I have been informed by persons of veracity that several of our subscribers have, by a false report, industriously circulated, been induced to subscribe for a newspaper about to be established in this town, to be called '*The Luzerne County Federalist*', and in opposition to this *Gazette*."

"In order to deceive people into a subscription, it has been asserted that this *Gazette* was no longer to be continued, but that it was to be given up in favor of the *Federalist*."

"The *Federalist* is to be exclusively devoted to the cause of Federalism. It is, therefore, reasonable to suppose that some persons zealous in that cause must have fabricated and propagated this malicious falsehood. Weak, indeed, must be the cause that is reduced to the necessity of employing instruments so base, and means so detestable, in its support."

"*The Wilkesbarré Gazette* will be continued so long as the public patronage is not withheld from it—which, from present appearances, is not likely soon to take place."

The *Gazette* continued to be edited and published by Joseph Wright during the remainder of the year 1800 and during the greater part of the year 1801. However, the present writer, notwithstanding that he has made diligent search here and elsewhere, has not been able to bring to light more than two or three copies of the *Gazette* of 1801. Undoubtedly, from all that can now be learned, it is safe to say that at sometime between August and December, 1801, the *Gazette* died an easy death.

Under the date of February 8, 1802, Joseph Wright published the following "Notice" in *The Luzerne County Federalist*:

"All persons indebted to the subscriber, either by book or note, are requested to make immediate payment, otherwise they will be put to cost. Those indebted for *The Wilkesbarre Gazette* are informed that it is no longer the intention of the editor to delay the collection of what he conceives to be his just due. He has already worked long enough *for nothing, and found himself!* Advertisements must also be paid for."

PART II.

READ BEFORE THE SOCIETY OCTOBER 14, 1921.

The Luzerne County Federalist, previously referred to, made its first appearance on Monday morning, January 5, 1801. Its owner, editor and publisher was Asher Miner, and the printing office was located in the two-story frame house occupied by Mr. Miner as a residence, on West Market Street, where the Second National Bank is now located. The *Federalist* consisted of four pages, 10¼x17 inches in size, with four columns to a page. The price of the paper was \$2. per year.

Asher Miner, the third child of Capt. Seth and Anna (*Charlton*) Miner, was born March 3, 1778, at Norwich, New London County, Connecticut. He learned the printer's trade under Samuel Green, at New London, and removed to Wilkes-Barré in 1799. In November of that year he opened a private school in a small building on the east side of Public Square, and notified the public that he had "undertaken to instruct youth in reading, writing, arithmetic and English grammar", and that proper attention would "be paid to the morals and manners of those committed to his care." This school was successfully conducted by Mr. Miner during the next four years—for the most of which period he was also engaged in editing and publishing the *Federalist*.

In May, 1804, Mr. Miner removed to Doylestown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, where, two months later, he established a weekly newspaper bearing the name "*The Pennsylvania Correspondent and Farmers' Advocate*." For twenty years Mr. Miner edited and published this newspaper, and then, having disposed of his business in Doylestown, he removed to West Chester, Chester County, Pennsylvania, where, from 1825 to 1834, he was a partner with his brother Charles in editing and publishing *The Village Record*. In 1834 he removed to what is now Miner's Mills, near Wilkes-Barré, where he died March 13, 1841.

Asher Miner was married 1st at Wilkes-Barré May 19, 1800, to Mary, only daughter of Thomas Wright (previously mentioned hereinbefore) and his wife, Mary (*Dyer*) Wright. Mrs. Mary (*Wright*) Miner died in January, 1830, and in 1835 Mr. Miner was married to Mrs. Thomasin H. Boyer of West Chester.

The press upon which the *Federalist* was printed was brought from Norwich, Connecticut, to Wilkes-Barré on a sled in December, 1800, by Charles Miner and S. Howard. "So strange a piece of machinery", wrote Charles Miner in May, 1859, "was a wonder along the way. To the 1,001 enquiries, 'What is it?' Howard's patience being exhausted, he was wont to reply: 'We are taking it to Wyoming. They are terribly troubled there with mice, and this is timber for mouse-traps.'"

In the *Federalist* of Monday, June 29, 1801, the editor announced that he had just received, and had for sale at his printing-office, a collection of books, including: "Calvinism Improved—a System of Real Grace"; Daboll's "Schoolmaster's Assistant"; "Webster's Grammar"; Pope's "Essays on Man"; "History of Sir Charles Grandison"; "The Moral Story Teller"; "An Account of the Unparalleled Sufferings of John Coustos, who nine times underwent the most cruel tortures ever invented by men, in order to exort from him the secrets of Free Masonry"; "The Fair Solitary, or Female Hermit"; "History of Clarissa Harlow"; "The Widow of the Village, or Adventures of Innocence"; "Fanny, or the Happy Repentence"; "The Farmer's Daughter of Essex"; "History of Pamela, or Virtue Rewarded"; "The Lover's Instructor, or the whole Art of Courtship."

In this issue of the *Federalist* was printed "Part IV" of Col. John Franklin's series of articles entitled "Plain Truth", relative to the Wyoming land troubles. Also, Arnold Colt announced that he had opened a "house of entertainment at that pleasant situation in Wilkesbarre, near

the banks of Susquehanna River, in the house lately occupied by Thomas Wright, Esq." (This house was on River Street, north of Market.) "Gentlemen travelers, and others", were invited by Mr. Colt "to call and see with what politeness" they would be treated.

In this issue of the *Federalist* the "Wyoming Blues" and the "First Company of Cavalry" were notified by their respective Captains—Benjamin Dorrance and Eleazer Blackman—to meet at their usual places of parade on July 4th, at 10 o'clock A. M., "completely equipped for military duty."

The following notice to members of the Federal political party was printed in this issue :

"Federalists, Attend! Those gentlemen of Wilkesbarré and the neighboring townships who still *retain their integrity*, are invited to attend a Celebration of our National birthday at Wilkesbarré on July 4th."

In the *Federalist* of October 24, 1801, the following editorial announcement appeared :

"To meet the public wishes, and evince a becoming respect for the increasing patronage this paper has received since its commencement, the editor has determined to enlarge it from a demi to a medium size. On Saturday evening next, therefore, it will assume a new appearance, and continue to be a candidate for public favor.

"Its columns shall be variegated with matter calculated to amuse the politician, inform the agriculturist, instruct the inquirer after truth, and entertain those who are seeking for the gratification of a rational curiosity."

In the next issue of the *Gazette*—which, undoubtedly, was then in the last stage of its existence—the following editorial appeared :

"The editor of the *Federalist* proposes to enlarge his paper if fifty new subscribers can be secured. As well might he look for fifty new moons to rise in the East in one evening. As the purpose of the enlargement is not mentioned, the public suppose it is to afford an opportunity of dealing out, more copiously, slander, detraction, perversion, misrepresentation and delusion."

It will be remembered that, at this time, the editors of the *Federalist* and the *Gazette* were brothers-in-law.

On Saturday evening, October 31, 1801, the *Federalist* appeared in its new dress. Its title had been changed to "*The Luzerne Federalist and Susquehannah Intelligencer*, Printed by Asher Miner, at Wilkesbarre, Penn.", and the following editorial was prominently displayed:

"Fully impressed with the belief that an enlightened public will not suffer extraordinary exertions for their gratification to go unrewarded, the Editor has, at a considerable additional expense, enlarged the columns and ornamented the pages of this paper. Its appearance is now as respectable as that of any country paper printed in the State."

The enlargement referred to above consisted of a slight increase in the length of the printed page. The paper was still a four-page sheet, with four columns to a page. The ornamentation of the pages, referred to by the editor, was accomplished by the use of single rules between the columns.

The following interesting editorial announcement also appeared in this issue:

"Since the establishment of this paper I have received payment from a number of my subscribers, who are requested to receive my sincere thanks. A still greater number have not made any payment—probably because they have been unsolicited.

"My patrons up the river are requested to hold themselves in readiness to make a yearly payment in cash, grain, etc., in the month of November, when I expect to call on them and furnish receipts. Those who reflect on the expense and fatigue of a journey of many miles in pursuit of debts which, to individuals, are mere trifles, will undoubtedly pay the sum of \$2.50 as cheerfully as the printer has labored and will labor to earn it.

"Gentlemen who live in Wilkesbarré and Kingston, are requested to call at the printing-office with cash or produce. Those at Hanover, Newport, Salem, Berwick and Huntington who do not pay Mr. Hancock, will be called on this Fall. Subscribers at and near Providence will please to leave their grain at the mill of Capt. Ebenezer Slocum."

With the beginning of Vol. II of the *Federalist* in

January, 1802, the time of publishing the paper was changed from Saturday evening to Monday morning.

On February 1, 1802, the printer issued another "S.O.S." call, in these words:

"The printer of this paper is in want of cash, wheat, rye, corn and wood, to 'increase the circle of his felicities'; for which he will give receipts, and tender his patrons the 'assurance of his high consideration'."

About this time Mr. Miner announced that he proposed to give the fourth page of the *Federalist* "a different form, and call it the *Weekly Magazine*." He declared, however, that much originality was not promised.

In October, 1801, Mr. Miner printed for Matthew Carey, of Philadelphia, a small book bearing this title: "The Budget, or Moral and Entertaining Fragments. Representing the Punishment of Vice and the Reward of Virtue. First American Edition." In May, 1802, it was announced that there had just been printed at the office of the *Federalist*, and was for sale there, "A New Theory of the Earth", by Abraham Bradley, Esq., then, or earlier a resident of Wyoming Valley. Pearce, in his "Annals of Luzerne County", states that this little book "gave great alarm to many pious old ladies—among others, to Mr. Bradley's good wife. The work was thought to be infidel in its character, advancing doctrines not in conformity with the teachings of Holy Writ. These orthodox ladies, and others, were active in its destruction, committing the book to the flames whenever a copy fell into their hands. This circumstance accounts for the present [A. D. 1860] scarcity of the work."

Later in 1802 announcement was made that a "Collection of Divine Hymns and Spiritual Songs", printed at the *Federalist* office, had been ready for several weeks for delivery to subscribers, who were requested "to pay charges and take them away." In 1803 A. & C. Miner printed at the *Federalist* office a pamphlet of 142 pages, entitled "The

Susquehanna Controversy Examined; the material objections against the Connecticut claimants answered. Done with truth and candor by Samuel Avery, Esq."

About that time a frequent contributor to the columns of the *Federalist* was George Griffin, Esq., a member of the Bar of Luzerne County, but who, in 1807, removed to New York City, where he achieved great success as a lawyer of ability and eloquence.

In the *Federalist* of March 8, 1802, an announcement was made in part as follows:

"Just received from Philadelphia, and for sale by Asher Miner at the Wilkesbarré Book Store, a variety of books and stationery, viz.: Good writing paper, letter paper [no envelopes, of course], sealing-wax and wafers, ink powder, slates and pencils, copper-plate copies (coarse and fine), imported and American quills, prints of Washington, Adams, La Fayette and Buonaparte, and almanacs. All the abovementioned articles will be sold on reasonable terms for cash, or exchanged for clean cotton and linen, or linen rags."

Then followed a list of the books offered for sale, some of which were: Bibles, Testaments, "Newton on the Prophecies that have been fulfilled and are now fulfilling" (2 volumes), "The Wanderings of William", "Watts' Psalms", "Every Man His Own Physician", "The Complete Letter Writer", "Life of General Putnam", "Seven Wise Masters and Mistresses", "The Seven Champions of Christendom", "Black Giles the Poacher, or the History of a Family who had rather live by their Wits than work", "History of Betty Brown", "The Cheapside Apprentice", "Fair Rosamond and Jane Shore", "The Lover's Instructor, or the whole Art of Courtship."

In the *Federalist* of April 26, 1802, the following notice was printed:

"The editor of this paper having taken his brother, Charles Miner, into partnership, the paper will in future be printed by A. & C. Miner."

Charles Miner, the youngest son of Capt. Seth and Anna (Charlton) Miner, was born at Norwich, Connecticut,

February 1, 1780. His school-days ended when he was seventeen years old, and then he went to New London, Connecticut, where he served two years as an apprentice to the printing trade in the office of *The Connecticut Gazette and Commercial Intelligencer*, published by Col. Samuel Green.

In 1779 Mr. Miner came to Pennsylvania, where he spent some time in what is now Susquehanna County. In the Spring of 1800 he came to Wilkes-Barré, where he made his home with his newly-wedded brother, Asher. In the following Autumn he began to teach school in a small log house on the hill near the present Vulcan Iron Works.

The first literary efforts of Charles Miner were published in the *Federalist*. In later years, speaking of these "first efforts", he said: "My first attempt at writing was in my brother's paper. He published my essay with a good deal of distrust; but I well remember the pride and satisfaction excited by the article being promptly copied by *The United States Gazette* of Philadelphia."

Upon his retirement from the printing business in Wilkes-Barré in 1816 (as more fully related hereinafter), Mr. Miner was engaged in newspaper work in Philadelphia for a few months. Later, in the Summer of 1817, he located in West Chester, Chester County, Pennsylvania, where he founded, edited and published *The Village Record*—from 1825 until 1832 in partnership with his brother Asher, as hereinbefore related. In 1832 Mr. Miner returned to his old home in Wyoming Valley, where he was joined in 1834 by his brother Asher—*The Village Record* having been disposed of to Henry S. Evans in that year.

While living in West Chester Charles Miner was elected (in 1824) to Congress from the district composed of the Counties of Chester, Delaware and Lancaster. His colleague, or co-Representative, from that district was the Hon. James Buchanan—then a high-toned Federalist, later the very pink of Democracy, and still later President of the

United States. Mr. Miner was re-elected in 1826 for a second term, and served until the first inauguration of President Andrew Jackson.

After his return to Wyoming Mr. Miner began the writing of his "History of Wyoming", an 8vo volume of 593 pages, which was published in 1845. It is by this work that Mr. Miner is now best known.

Charles Miner was married at Wilkes-Barré January 16, 1804, to Letitia Wright, daughter of Joseph Wright, previously mentioned, and a niece of Mrs. Asher Miner. Mrs. Letitia Miner died in February, 1852, and Charles Miner died October 26, 1865. (For extended and interesting accounts of the life and doings of Charles Miner, and further references to Asher Miner, see the present writer's "History of Lodge No. 61, F. and A. M.", published in 1897; and "Reminiscences of the Hon. Charles Miner, in Vol. XIV of the "Proceedings and Collections of The Wyoming Historical and Geological Society," issued in December, 1915.)

Any one examining the files of Wilkes-Barré's earliest newspapers cannot avoid concluding that the editors and publishers of those papers were chronically impecunious. In almost every issue, at times, calls and demands were made upon the papers' subscribers for cash and the various other articles, ranging from rags to fire-wood, with which newspaper subscriptions were paid.

At an early date a certain newspaper editor, bewailing the fact that his patrons came forward with all sorts of articles *except cash* in making payment of their indebtedness to him, said: "We are asked by a certain doctor to accept fit medicine in payment for advertising. We will take itch ointment and condition powders, but we can't have fits just to fill our advertising space."

In the *Federalist* of October 4, 1802, what the editor denominated "A Hint" was printed. It read as follows:

"The printers of this paper are in want of cash, grain, butter and cheese, for which they will give receipts and thanks. They request all who are indebted for newspapers, advertisements or books to make payment previous to the first of November next. Those for whom we have toiled nearly two years, and caught nothing, are particularly desired to attend to this request."

Apparently this pathetic "Hint" or appeal, had little or no effect upon the *Federalist's* debtors, for in the issue of December 6, 1802, there was printed an editorial bearing the caption "A Droll Anecdote", and reading as follows:

"To subscribers between Wilkesbarre and Tioga. On Wednesday next the junior printer intends to start upon a dunning visit to those who are in arrears for *The Luzerne Federalist*. As the expense and trouble of the journey will be very considerable, and as it is absolutely necessary, *as well as just*, that the printers should be paid, he [the junior printer] hopes that no subscriber will turn him off with the mortifying tale of 'I'll pay you next week', or 'Call again', for this will neither satisfy our papermaker or furnish us with bread and butter. If these things are duly considered, there is no doubt but every man to whom this notice applies will be prepared, with his wheat threshed, or his purse-strings loosened, to settle his account."

The "junior printer", referred to in the foregoing "Anecdote", and in the earlier "Hint", was Charles Miner, who for some months then, had been the partner of his brother Asher, in editing and printing the *Federalist*—as previously mentioned herein; on May 1, 1804, however, the co-partnership of Asher and Charles Miner in the printing business was dissolved by mutual consent. Asher removed to Doylestown, as previously mentioned, and Charles continued to publish the *Federalist* in the office on West Market Street.

In the paper issued October 27, 1804, Mr. Miner announced:

"The printer has on hand a quantity of books. They have long lain on my shelves for sale, but as no purchasers appear, they will be given away to any persons who shall apply first and *promise to read them!*"

In this same paper Mr. Miner announced that he had "just received direct from the patentee," and had for sale at his

printing-office, the following-mentioned "valuable family medicines", to wit: "Rawson's Stomachic Bitters", "Rawson's Worm Powders", and "Rawson's Anti-Bilious Pills."

In April, 1805, Mr. Miner removed his printing-office from Market Street "to Bank Street [now River Street], one door above the store of Jacob and Joseph Sinton", where he stated it would remain for the ensuing year, "unless cases of emergency should require it to be removed sooner." This location was a short distance above Market Street—about where the building of the Order of Elks is now located.

In May, 1806, Mr. Miner was again sending forth an S. O. S. call. In a long editorial "notice" he declared, among other matters:

"As the next number of my paper completes the second year since I took the sole management of it; and as there will then be due the establishment more than \$3,000., I am persuaded that my friends will advance me what is due."

At a later period an editor and publisher who was about to pull up stakes and leave for new fields, because of lack of support, sarcastically declared—in what might have been denominated "Parting Shots"—

"An editor doesn't need money! Don't worry about the editor. He has a charter from the State to act as door-mat for the community. He'll get his paper out somehow, and stand up for you when you run for office, and lie about your pigeon-toed daughter's tackey wedding, and blow about your big-footed son when he gets a four-dollar-a-week job, and weep over your shriveled soul when it is released from your grasping body, and smile at your giddy widow's second marriage. Oh! he'll get along. The Lord only knows how—but the editor will get there somehow!"

"How happy the printer who gets all his pay,
Whose patrons are prompt and require no delay;
He fears neither poverty, bailiff or duns,
And his life, like the *press*, ever easily runs.

"His *cases* and *chases*, his *galley*s and *forms*,
Have oft warned the country of forthcoming storms;
He's a helper of morals, a patriot true—
So, if you owe aught, give the *devil* his due."

Thus sang a Wilkes-Barré bard years ago.

In 1808 and 1809 Mr. Miner was one of the Representatives from Luzerne County in the Pennsylvania Legislature. He was also interested then and in 1810 in certain Government contracts. Consequently, on April 28, 1809, he announced to the public that after May 1 the *Federalist* would be "conducted" by Sidney Tracy and Steuben Butler.

"The talents, integrity and application of these young gentlemen who succeed me [wrote Mr. Miner], are a pledge to the public that the paper will be improved under their superintendence. The duty of an editor of a public newspaper is arduous and difficult. In the present state of parties it is impossible to please every one. My own sentiments I have expressed with freedom, but at the same time my political adversaries have never been denied the right of making the *Federalist* the medium for expressing their opinions.

"Some things I may have published that might better have been omitted; but on the subject of politics I am, by experience, more firmly persuaded that the counsels of Washington—the pure principles of Federalism, which, with my humble abilities, I have endeavored to inculcate—are the best calculated to maintain the honor and liberty of my country.

"The paper being no longer under my control, I am in no way responsible for its management; but, from the correct principles of my successors, I have not the least doubt but its political complexion will be entirely satisfactory to the patriots of the Washington school."

Sidney Tracy and Steuben Butler who, as mentioned above, became "conductors" and publishers of the *Federalist*, had been apprentices in the office of the paper. Mr. Tracy was a native of Connecticut, who had at that time lived in Wilkes-Barré for several years. In 1809 and subsequent years he was Town Clerk of the borough of Wilkes-Barré. In January, 1809, he was married to Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob Sinton, a Wilkes-Barré merchant.

Steuben Butler was a son of Col. Zebulon Butler, by his third wife, Phebe (*Haight*) Butler, and spent nearly all of his life in Wilkes-Barré. In August, 1813, he founded and published *The Literary Visitor* and *The Advertiser*, small

weekly papers, which he published for two years at Wilkes-Barré. From Sept., 1818, till 1822, he was sole proprietor and publisher of *The Wyoming Herald*, a four page weekly newspaper published at Wilkes-Barré. For thirty-five years he kept a book-store in Wilkes-Barré. He died here at his home on South Franklin Street August 12, 1881, aged 92 years.

In 1809 and 1810 the printing-office of the *Federalist* was on River Street, a short distance above Northampton Street, "next door above the house which Arnold Colt" had occupied a short time before.

On June 22, 1810, the first number of *The Susquehanna Democrat* was published at Wilkes-Barré. The paper—which was a weekly—consisted of four pages, 12x19 inches in size, with four columns to a page. The subscription price was two dollars per annum, and the printing-office was on South Main Street, near Public Square. Later it was removed to the west corner of the Square. The motto of the *Democrat*, or the declaration of the principles of its editor, was a quotation from the writing of Thomas Jefferson, and was printed on the first page of the paper, reading as follows:

"The support of the State Governments in all their rights, as the most competent Administrations for our Domestic concerns, and the surest bulwark against anti-Republican tendencies."

Samuel Maffet, the editor and publisher of the *Democrat*, was born in Linden, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, July 7, 1789, the son of John Maffet, a native of Tyrone, Ireland, who had come to America about 1774. Samuel learned the printing trade with John Binns, of Northumberland and Philadelphia (who was a prominent and influential citizen in his day), and soon after his twentieth birthday removed to Wilkes-Barré. In September, 1819, owing to ill health, Mr. Maffet offered the *Democrat* plant for sale. In June, 1824, Sharp D. Lewis became a partner of Mr. Maffet in the business, at which time the paper was enlarged and

improved. One year later Mr. Maffet sold his interest in the business to Mr. Lewis and retired therefrom.

From 1815 to 1821 Mr. Maffet was Recorder of Deeds and Register of Wills, and from 1821 to 1824 Prothonotary, Clerk of the Courts of Quarter Sessions and Oyer and Terminer, and Clerk of the Orphans' Court, of Luzerne County. From 1814 to 1825 he was an officer in the Pennsylvania militia, first as Ensign and then Captain of the 8th Company in the 2d Regiment. He was married May 4, 1815, to Caroline Ann Ross, a daughter of Gen. William and Eliza (*Sterling*) Ross of Wilkes-Barré. Samuel Maffet died at Wilkes-Barré August 15, 1825, and some years later his widow was married to Elisha Atherton.

In September, 1810, the firm of Tracy & Butler, publishers of the *Federalist*, was dissolved, Mr. Tracy having taken over the store in Kingston which had been kept for some time by James Sinton. Charles Miner then resumed the editorial chair of the *Federalist*, and, with Mr. Butler, continued the publication of the paper until January 4, 1811, when the last number was issued. Meanwhile, early in December, 1810, Mr. Miner had printed "proposals for a new paper to be published at Wilkesbarre, on an improved plan."

The first issue of this new paper—"The Gleaner and Luzerne Intelligencer"—was published by C. Miner and S. Butler at Wilkes-Barré on Friday evening, February 1, 1811. The paper was about the same size as the defunct *Federalist*, and its motto was: "Intelligence is the Life of Liberty." The subscription price for the *Gleaner* was \$2. per annum.

The limits prescribed for this paper will not permit me to devote any space for detailed descriptions of, and extracts from, either *The Susquehanna Democrat* or *The Gleaner*, or any of the publications which were contemporary with, or which followed, them in the field of Wilkes-Barré journalism, as for example: *The Literary Visitor*, *The Ad-*

vertiser, The Wyoming Herald, The Wyoming Republican, The Republican Farmer, etc.

However, in concluding this paper, I will briefly describe, in a general way, some of the singular, odd and interesting features of the publications which I have denominated "Wilkes-Barré's Earliest Newspapers."

The newspapers published in Wilkes-Barré were generally, if not always, delivered to *local* subscribers through the Post Office, up to the year 1854, when, however, the postal authorities put a stop to this custom.

For a number of years—say from 1798 to 1805, or even later—Wilkes-Barré newspapers intended for subscribers outside of the village of Wilkes-Barré were carried and delivered by the regular post-riders, or contractors, who, in making their contracts with the postal authorities, reserved to themselves "the emoluments arising from carrying newspapers from Wilkes-Barré, other than those carried in the mail." The carrier was allowed one cent for each newspaper delivered within the State of Pennsylvania, and one cent and a-half for each paper delivered beyond the borders of the State.

The following notice was printed in the *Luzerne Federalist* of May 10, 1802.

"All persons who are indebted to Samuel and Josiah Sterling for postage on the *Wilkesbarre Gazette*, printed by Joseph Wright, are invited to hold themselves in readiness to make payment in one week from this date. Those between Wilkesbarre and Providence may leave cash or grain at the store of Theron Barnum, at Pittstown. Those between Pittstown and Athens must pay the post on his way up or down. And all who neglect to make payment will be sued without further notice."

[Signed] "JOSIAH STERLING."

In those early days the printers were often put to considerable inconvenience because of their inability to procure a sufficient quantity of news-print paper of the proper size. The following items, relative to this matter, are from *The Federalist*.

March 28, 1803. "A disappointment in the receipt of paper, occasioned by the almost impassable roads, obliges us to publish a sheet smaller than usual this week." This issue consisted of four pages, 8x14 ins. in size.

January 5, 1805. "The badness of the roads and inclemency of the season prevented the arrival of paper in time to give a whole sheet this week. It is hoped this will be a sufficient apology."

April 20, 1807. "The height of the water has prevented the Post from performing his accustomed route the two last weeks. Three mails and three sets of newspapers would be too great a load for him the next tour. I have therefore, determined to publish but half a sheet this week, and make no account of it. But as I have been obliged some times to issue only a half, or a small, paper, this will be considered as making up the deficiency."

May 22, 1807. "A disappointment in not receiving paper this week obliges me to print on a writing sheet [foolscap size]."

The paucity of local news which is very striking in these early newspapers may be accounted for, I presume, by the fact that Wilkes-Barré was a small place (there were only 835 inhabitants in the township of Wilkes-Barré in 1800, while in 1810 there were only 1,225 inhabitants in the borough and township combined), and the people here knew, without the aid of a newspaper, what was occurring from day to day in their midst.

The Act of Assembly incorporating the borough of Wilkes-Barré was approved March 17, 1806, but no mention of the fact was made in the *Federalist* until April 11, 1806, when the Act of Incorporation was printed without any comments upon it, or other references concerning it. The Act of Assembly establishing the Wilkes-Barré Academy was approved March 19, 1807, but no reference to the matter was made in the *Federalist* until May 22, 1807, when the Act was printed, without comment.

The first brick house in Wilkes-Barré—a pretentious structure on the South Side of Public Square—was erected in 1807, but the *Federalist* never made any reference to it. In February, 1808, Judge Jesse Fell made in Wilkes-Barré his successful experiments with respect to burning anthracite coal in an open grate, without a forced draft. Undoubtedly the principal people of the town learned all about these experiments immediately, but the *Federalist* never printed a line of information or comment on the subject.

Of course these early newspapers did not “run” a “social column” or “society page”, containing such interesting items as this: “Mrs.—— has gone to Philadelphia for a few weeks. During her absence she will receive medical treatment for a tumor, and will also select her Spring and Summer stock of millinery.”

Very few marriage and death notices were printed in the *Gazette* prior to 1799. At that period, and for a considerable number of years later, death notices and obituaries contained very little or no information of a genealogical or biographical character. The good qualities and Christian graces, which had characterized the deceased in life, were dwelt upon, and nothing more was set forth.

Marriage notices were printed under the heading “Nuptial Ties”, “Hymeneal Register”, etc. These early notices are of particular and amusing interest, being almost invariably preceded or followed by poetical effusions of more or less—usually less—merit. It is doubtful if the “newly-weds” of to-day would care to have the details of their marriage given so thoroughly as shown in the following notices, extracted from Wilkes-Barré’s earliest newspapers.

“Married, Mr. J. W—— to the amiable Miss M. J——, after a courtship of 45 years. The bride and bridegroom were each between the ages of 60 and 70 years.”

“Married, J. M——, aged 88, to Miss D——, aged 32. Whole sum, 88; deduct 32; remains, 56 years—a trifle.

“No gander swims so grey, but soon or late
He finds some honest goose to be his mate.”

"Married, Mr. J. Bate to Miss Mary Ann Bass, after a courtship of one hour.

"Is this not angling well, I ask,
Such tender bait to take?
He caught in one short hour a Bass,
The Bass, though, caught the Bate."

"Married, at Bridgewater, Capt. T. B——, aged 66, to Miss W——, aged 57, after a long and tedious courtship of 48 years, which they both sustained with uncommon fortitude."

"Married, by the Rev. Wm. S——, Joseph W—— to Miss Susan W——, after a tedious courtship of 13 days, and but 35 days after the death of his former wife.

"The best way, it seems, a deep sorrow to smother,
For the loss of a wife, is—to marry another."

"Married, at Westminster, Mass., Mr. Edward Locke to Miss Rhoda Gunn. What is a gun without a lock?

"Two souls are blended into one,
Like drops of crystal dew;
Two streams which long apart have run,
Now the same course pursue.
May Heaven smile its richest grace,
Strew your path with sacred peace,
Fill your cup with earthly joys,
And your arms with girls and boys."

Luzerne Federalist, 1802. "Married, Mr. John A. S—— to Miss E. Muchmore.

"If John had happiness before,
By happiness he has gained Much-more."

"Mr. Journey, aged 80 years, to Miss Cole, aged 60.

"A fellow-traveler, and a friend,
Is found towards the Journey's end."

Federalist, April 11, 1806. "Married in this town, on Wednesday evening last, by William Ross, Esq., Mr. Isaac Bowman to Miss Polly Smith, both of this town.

"Hail holy flame! Hail sacred tye!
That binds two gentle souls in one.
On equal wings their troubles fly,
In equal streams their pleasures run."

Luzerne Federalist, June 6, 1806. "Married in this town on Wednesday morning last, by Joseph Wright, Esq., Dr. Seth T. Barstow to Miss Clarissa Woodruff.

"Matches are made in Heav'n, a bard relates,
But some poor Souls, descending, lose their mates.
Not so with these, more lucky than the rest,
They've met on earth to make each other blest.
Congenial Souls, may ye each pleasure prove,
That flows from virtue, constancy and love."

Luzerne Federalist, June 8, 1810. "Married, on Sunday evening last, by the Rev. Mr. Hoyt, Mr. Steuben Butler to Miss Julia Bulkeley.

"But happy they, the happiest of their kind,
Whom gentler stars unite, and in one fate
Their hearts, their fortunes and their beings blend.
For nought but Love can answer Love,
And render bliss secure."

The Gleaner, February 1, 1811. "Married in this town, by the Rev. Mr. Hoyt, Mr. Jacob J. Dennis to Miss Abi K. Fell, daughter of Jesse Fell, Esq.

"Hail, Wedlock! Hail, inviolable tie!
Perpetual fountain of domestic joy!
Love, Friendship, Honor, Truth and Pure Delight
Harmonious mingle in the nuptial rite."

Susquehanna Democrat, August 2, 1811. "Married, on Sunday evening last, by William Ross, Esq., Mr. Calvin Edwards to Miss Minerva Blackman, daughter of Major E. Blackman, all of Wilkes-barre.

"Ye wedded fair, may Heaven increase your joys,
And crown your loves with prattling girls and boys,
May Love and Peace unite to give you Joy,
And no mischance your fondest hopes destroy."

The Advertiser, October 22, 1813. "Married at Kingston, on Sunday evening last, Mr. Abiel Abbott to Miss Cylinda Atherton, daughter of Mr. Elisha Atherton.

"Wedlock, thou dear, delicious state,
To thee I'll ever kneel!
In thy bless'd chains no foul debate
On Love's sweet hours can steal."

The Advertiser, December 10, 1813. "Married, on the 2d inst., Mr. Joshua Miner to Miss Fanny Hepburn.

"Tho' fools spurn Hymen's gentle powers,
We, who improve his golden hours,
By sweet experience know
That marriage, rightly understood,
Gives to the tender and the good
A Paradise below."

Susquehanna Democrat, January 26, 1816. "Married, on Sunday evening last, Mr. George Tucker to Miss Betsy Miller.

"May they be blest with girls and boys,
To handle spoons and ladles.
May Heaven never blast their joys
With an empty cradle."

Susquehanna Democrat, July 19, 1822. "Married, at Pittston, by Deodat Smith, Esq., Mr. Elisha Atherton to Miss Catherine Diltz.

"When fascinating beauty smiles—
Tho' deemed a transient flower—
Vain man, with all his boasted might,
Submissive owns its power."

THE ORIGIN AND INFLUENCE OF THE PILGRIMS.

BY WILLIAM BREWSTER.

READ BEFORE THE WYOMING HISTORICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY,
DECEMBER 10, 1920.

A little more than half a century ago the genesis of the Pilgrims was obscured by the lapse of time and the incompleteness and inaccuracy of historical research. Not until the discovery in 1855 of the manuscript of Bradford's History in the library of Fulham Palace and the painstaking investigations of its finder Joseph Hunter, an eminent English scholar, was there revealed the records of their early life and the place of their English home. Due in part to this obscurity, but more to vivid imagination, there has been much misstatement of that, written and spoken of them. The Pilgrim has been confounded with the Puritan and unfortunately most of the American people are unable to distinguish the simple, tolerant settlers of Plymouth from their haughty neighbors, who hanged the witches and flayed the Quakers. Just as some Massachusetts Congregationalists a century or so ago refused to acknowledge the Pilgrims as the parents of their church, so has a modern biographer in his effusive adulation of Roger Williams, denied to them the glory of religious toleration. The spirit of the times, however, has well nigh refuted the pretensions of prejudice and zeal and the forefathers need no defense.

Likewise, there is confusion in many minds why the world acclaims the Pilgrims above all other colonists of ancient or modern times. It is not because they were first, for others came before them; not because they were poor and suffered much, for others as poor as they have planted the flags of Europe over the continents of the earth; nor because they fled from ecclesiastical tyranny at home, for their persecution is not to be compared to that of the Huguenots under the House of Navarre; nor to that of the simple peasants

who fled from the Rhenish Palatinate. It is however, because of the tremendous influence exercised by this little band of Englishmen and women in molding the subsequent policy of mankind.

The beginning of the Pilgrim movement is a long way back in history, for it was conceived in the spirit of unconquerable freedom possessed by our Teutonic ancestors and was nourished while the three German tribes knitted themselves together into the English people. Subdued by the conquest and the long years of Norman and Plantaganet rule, nevertheless the leaven of freedom was working, but like all evolutions of human society the change was slow. Revived with the revolt of the Norman baronage under King John, the movement, supported and strengthened by Simon Montfort and the Parliament of Edward I, was accelerated by the Lollardy which followed Wyckliffe, and achieved a sort of triumph when the old feudal nobility was destroyed in the strife between York and Lancaster.

The great social revolution wrought by the War of the Roses, not only placed the grandson of a country squire on the throne of England, but restored the native English to their ancient heritage. England thus emerged from the darkness of the Middle Ages with the advantage over her contemporaries of a rejuvenated race. The Anglo-Saxon people had managed to preserve their local customs, language and law during the four centuries of apparent subjection, while absorbing all that was best of Norman law, language and blood. The casual student of English history has not failed to observe that during the long and vigorous rule of the Plantaganets, the political leaders of England were men of Norman names and of the last six archbishops of Canterbury preceding the advent of Henry Tudor, four were of royal blood. Thenceforth the Church of England, with the single exception of Cardinal Pole, was ruled by those of common blood and the King's counsel was dominated by men of the middle classes.

The Reign of the Tudors was glorious in poetry, philosophy, chivalry and romance, and yet, singular as it may seem it was a period of political retrogression. In the latter part of the Middle Ages, England had attained a superior position among the nations because of the justice of her Courts, the power of her Parliament and the security of the citizen from arbitrary taxation and imprisonment. Even during the confusion of the War of the Roses her Judges rode their circuits undisturbed and her jury system was developed by the separation of jurors and witnesses.

Under Henry VII, and his family, however, a system of personal control was developed; spies infested the land, Parliament sank into insignificance; the Church was crushed to a helpless dependency; and even the Courts bent to the royal will. The reason for this servility is perceived in the Englishmen's inherent love of order. The changed character of agriculture by the enclosure of the commons, had deprived the villien class of their small holdings and turned them into turbulent floating laborers.

From the horror of social revolt the farmer, landowner and the trader turned to the Crown as the one means of preserving law and order.

While this autocratic rule was grounded in the fear of violence and revolution the Tudor sovereigns themselves fomented a revolution which concluded in the camp of Oliver Cromwell and on the shores of America destroyed the idea of the divine right of Kings and the theory of imperial despotism. The history of the English reformation is the tale of Tudor despotism, Stuart folly, and the steady progress of these middle class English leaders from positions of power dependent upon the crown to positions of power dependent upon the people. It was the destruction of the feudal nobility, the enfranchisement of the native English, and the elevation and enrichment of their leaders with the property of the dissolved monasteries that consolidated the power of the crown and it was the opposition to that power

by the same middle class that later developed the reformation and the Puritan Commonwealth.

The revival of learning, the introduction of printing and the New Testament of Erasmus, prepared the way, and the question of the royal divorce afforded a sufficient pretext to sever the Papal connection. The reform imposed by Henry was slow and moderate, but under Edward VI, Archbishop Cranmer, whose tendencies were thoroughly Protestant adopted the English liturgy, dispensed with most of the ceremonials and swept away the polytheism of Catholic worship. Moreover, in the forty-two articles set forth by him, the real or corporal presence in the sacrament of the Eucharist, was explicitly denied. It is likely that had Edward VI lived and the progressive tendencies of Cranmer and Ridley continued, there would have been no English Puritans and no American Pilgrims, and that the evolution of the English government would have been long delayed, and America would still be a dependency of the crown.

The accession of Mary sent Cranmer and Ridley to the stake and the Protestant preachers in flight over the seas. Upon the Continent they absorbed the theology of Geneva and most of them became thorough Calvinists. Upon the death of Mary, the scared preachers flocked back with the determination to bring the Church of England in harmony with that of the Continent, and being men of ability, their influence was soon felt in London and the eastern counties where they found a friendly hearing, but the Queen possessed many Catholic notions and loved the more splendid worship of that faith while Parker the Primate, who was a moderate man and had not fled into exile, but remained secluded at home, was not in sympathy with the Helvetian reformers. The use of the surplice and cope and a few ceremonials were retained. In the re-statement of the articles the clause concerning the corporal presence was omitted and this gave very serious offense. However, the worship in each church was conducted according to the

tendencies of the minister in charge and no attempt was made for some years to enforce the Act of Uniformity. Nevertheless, many of the new Bishops had been in exile and were of course friendly to a more thorough reform. Some overzealous preachers were, however, pretty thoroughly disciplined and these indications of a severer policy aroused the apprehensions of many earnest souls. Among these was Thomas Cartwright, the first high priest of Puritanism. He was a man of great ability, with fanatical faith in Calvinism and was professor of divinity at Cambridge. His attack was not only on the ceremonials, and the real abuses such as dispensations, exemptions and pluralities, but on the polity of the Church itself. In his scheme the Presbyters were to be supreme and the civil ruler was simply to carry out their decrees. The Bishops thoroughly scared at this audacious assault on the hierarchy began to harry the preachers into conformity, but the Precisians as the Puritans were then called, were made of stern stuff and thenceforth during the reign of the Queen a furious controversy raged, yet few of these then had any desire of doing away with the State Church or denying the supremacy of the sovereign. Two causes bound them in their allegiance, one, that nearly all the counsellors of the Queen were of their faith or friendly to them, and the other, the fear of a Catholic succession in the person of Mary Stuart.

We can gather something of the furious spirit of the times in the blazing bonfires of London and the peals that rang from the steeples of eastern England, when the news came from Fotheringay that the brilliant and beautiful Queen had died at the headsman's hand in the gloomy hall of the castle. And that sullen determined will with which the English Puritans rallied behind Sir Francis Drake as he swept the Spaniard from the seas should have awed the coming Stuarts. But the folly of James and the greater folly of his son and their servile Bishops, evolved out of the Precisians of Elizabeth's time a type unique in human

history—a daring resolute man, serious and austere in dress and bearing—a character uniting intelligence with sobriety, industry and thrift, but a man fanatically devoted to a cold unsympathetic religion, intolerant of the belief and frailty of others, awfully just after the manner of the old Mosaic Law, and terrible in his wrath. This was the English Puritan, and transplanted to Massachusetts he still believed in the Church State which tolerated no other religion but his own. Yet, he became quite democratic in his polity and his character was a little softened by his contact with a milder and humbler sort of men.

Out of the desperation of the Puritan of Elizabeth's time there grew another movement outside and separate from the Church of England. It is probable that secret conventicles of Lollards still persisted down to Elizabeth's day, but they were composed of poor and ignorant people and attracted little attention. The first leader of English Separatism was Robert Browne. In 1581-82, he gathered together congregations at Norwich and Bury St. Edmunds and led them to Middleburg in Zeeland where after two years the community broke up because of internal dissension. Browne appears to have been a man of violent temper and none too steady in his ideas, for after a few years of independency he returned to the Church of England. Aside from his apostasy, contemporary chronicles have pictured him as a man of rather dubious character. However, later writers have shown him in a more favorable light, and undoubtedly he first formulated the ideal which developed into Congregationalism. It is worthy of note that other Separatists however, took special pains to deny that they were Brownists.

In 1586, John Greenwood and Henry Barrowe gathered together a Separatist congregation in London and both suffered death for their independency, on the same gallows, April 6, 1593. Barrowe appears to be the abler man and wrote several treatises on Separatism which had consider-

able influence in moulding the movement. He seems to have insisted that independency was necessary to pure worship and discipline, because the relics of Romanism polluted the established church. The members of their congregation fled to Amsterdam where upon his release they were joined by their pastor, Francis Johnson. The inspiring figure in this congregation is the celebrated Henry Ainsworth who was the most cultured of the early Congregationalists. Johnson leaned to Presbyterianism and Ainsworth held that the church itself was Supreme. In consequence there was a division in the congregation which destroyed it and its influence.

The next recorded movement is that which began at Gainsborough in Lincolnshire and soon became two distinct bodies or churches, whereof the Gainsborough church under the ministry of John Smyth went to Amsterdam. Smyth soon came under the influence of the Mennonites or Anabaptists, and there originated the Baptist wing of Congregationalism, by forming the first English-Baptist church, about 1609.

That other church which was to be the parent of English and American Congregationalism and some years later was to found a nation across the seas, was formed at an obscure place in the County of Nottingham near where it joins Lincolnshire and Yorkshire. The little village of Scrooby is probably to-day no larger than it was three hundred years ago, but little remains as it was then save the old parish church of St. Wilfreds, and the remnant of its once great manor house. Scrooby Manor is mentioned in the Domesday Survey as belonging to the See of York and it was undoubtedly such in Saxon times. Leland, who visited the place in 1541, says: "In the mean townlet of Scrooby I marked two things, the parish church, not big but very well builded; the second was a great manor place standing within a moat and belonging to the Archbishop of York."

Thornton writing in 1677, says: "Here at Scrooby stood

a very fair palace, a far greater house of receipt and a better seat for provision than Southwell and had attending to it the North Soke consisting of very many towns thereabouts; it hath a fair park belonging to it."

In 1575 Archbishop Grindal in a document still preserved among the archives at York, appointed a William Brewster his receiver and bailiff of the Manor of Scrooby with life tenure of both offices. Grindal was a zealous Puritan and after his translation to the See of Canterbury was deprived of his jurisdiction by the Queen because of his refusal to suppress the Puritans. Thus there may have been more than a coincidence in the appointment of the new bailiff, if as Mr. Hunter suggests, he was the son of William Brewster of Bury St. Edmunds, an early center of English Puritanism and the place where Robert Browne recruited his congregation. William, the son of the bailiff, born in 1564, went from the old Manor House to Cambridge University where he remained until he entered the service, as a confidential secretary, of William Davison, Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Netherlands. Bradford says, "that", he Davison, "found him so discrete and faithful as he trusted him above all other that were about him, and only employed him in all matters of greatest trust and secrecie." Davison returning to London was appointed a principal secretary of State. His private secretary was George Cranmer, a nephew of the Archbishop and the two young secretaries were frequently visited by another ardent Puritan, one Edwin Sandys, Cranmer's fellow student at Oxford and son of Edwin Sandys, Archbishop of York. The friendship there formed had an important bearing on subsequent events, for the young visitor was the future Sir Edwin Sandys, Treasurer and Governor of the Virginia Company.

Because of his having secured the signature of the Queen to the death warrant of Mary, Queen of Scots, Davison was removed from office and imprisoned. This sent young Brewster back to his father's home at Scrooby where in

1590, upon the death of the Elder, he succeeded him as receiver and bailiff and post at Scrooby. As bailiff of the Manor and representaive of the Archbishop, he recommended the appointment of the rectors of the neighboring parishes and this is what Bradford means when he says, "He did much good in the country where he lived in promoting and furthering religion, not only by his practiss and example, and provocking and encouraging of other, but by procuring of good preachers to Ye places thereabout." It is safe to say that none but good Puritans were chosen.

Shortly before, one, Richard Clifton, was instituted to the rectory of Babworth, a country village a short distance from Scrooby. Bradford says of him, "He was a grave and revered preacher who by his paines and dilligens had done much good and under God had been a means of Ye conversion of many."

The Queen was nearing her end and Bancroft, now virtually Primate, by his ruthless persecution was driving those like Richard Clifton and William Brewster, who were religious for conscience sake, into desperation, and thus it came about that, "In 1602, divers Godly Christians, in the North of England, entered into a covenant to walk with God and one with another in the enjoyment of the ordinances according to the primitive pattern in the Word of God. Thenceforth until 1608, when they fled to Holland, the bailiff of Scrooby, in the words of his friend, Governor Bradford, "Was a spetiall stay and help unto them. They ordinarily mett at his house on ye Lord's Day (which was a manor of ye bishops). And with great love he entertained them when they came, making provision for them to his great charge."

Of the old manor house which cradled the Scrooby church, little is left to-day. Some traces of the moat remain. In a neighboring cow shed are some of the carved oaken beams of the chapel roof, and upon a portion of the wall of the chapel itself, now the western wall of the present

farmhouse, is a bronze tablet bearing this inscription: "This Tablet Erected by the Pilgrim Society of Plymouth, Mass., U. S. A., To Mark The Site of the Ancient Manor House where lived William Brewster from 1588 to 1608, And Where he Organized The Pilgrim Church Of Which He Became Ruling Elder, and With Which in 1608 He Removed to Amsterdam, In 1609 To Leyden, And in 1620, To Plymouth, Where He Died, April 10, 1644."

Among those who joined the Scrooby church was a youth who was to take a principal part in moulding the Pilgrim Commonwealth. William Bradford was born at Austerfield in Yorkshire, a hamlet about two miles from Scrooby. The parish register, still extant, records his baptism in the little Norman church still standing. It is said that his connection with the Separatists alienated him from his family which was one of some importance in that community.

While in Holland, Bradford supported himself as a weaver. He was largely self-taught and learned something of Latin and Greek and it is said could read the Hebrew Bible. That he was a man of greatest common sense, his successful administration as Governor for many years attests and had it not been for his patience and keen discernment the enterprise would perhaps have been wrecked. It is, however, as a historian that posterity owes him the greatest debt of gratitude, for in his "History of Plymouth Plantation", we have a contemporary record of the founding of this Republic, written in a simple, modest style, and with such quaint humor that it is one of the treasures of literature.

Brewster and Bradford are the only Pilgrims who have been accurately traced to the Scrooby home and congregation. There is another, but not a Pilgrim, that gentle soul, John Robinson, who seems to have come to Scrooby in 1606, upon the separation from the church at Gainsborough. It was he who clearly defined Congregationalism, prescribed its polity and adjusted the relations of elders to

the church. He was a man of thorough learning and great ability and an opponent has called him, "The most learned, polished and modest spirit that ever that sect enjoyed." He was a thorough Calvinist and much opposed to Arminianism, and he debated with great success against the Arminian Professors in Leyden University.

With the removal of the congregation to Leyden and the reorganization of the church, we have Congregationalism as an existing fact.

The three great systems of ecclesiastical polity may be contrasted as follows: The Episcopal, monarchical in form, with the diocese as the unit, under the supreme control of a diocesan Bishop and by the doctrine of apostolic succession, vested with this power by divinely bestowed authority from above. The Presbyterian, a graded and representative aristocracy, with its Session, Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly, composed of ministers and representative elders; but with the membership of each church exercising a democratic initiative, subject to the ultimate control of the Presbytery. And the Congregational, expressing the principal of Democracy in religion with each individual church as the ecclesiastical unit and its membership the supreme authority to prescribe its creed and discipline, and only bound in matters of polity by their adherence to custom.

The internal system of the Scrooby church we have set forth in the following brief note written from Leyden in 1617 by John Robinson and William Brewster to an official of the Virginia Company in London, "Touching ye ecclesiastical ministrie, namely of pastores for teaching, elders for ruling and deacons for distributing ye churches contribution as also for ye two sacraments, baptisme, and ye Lord's Supper, we doe wholly and in all points agree with ye French reform churches according to their Publick confession of faith." In later years the Plymouth and other Congregational churches considerably modified this arrangement.

In 1619 Sir Edwin Sandys was elected Treasurer and

Governor of the Virginia Company, and due to the friendship mentioned above a patent was soon thereafter granted to the Leyden People.

In his parting address to them Robinson uttered his famous prophecy: "There will be no difference between the non-conforming ministers and you, when they come to the practice of the ordinances out of the Kingdom." This parting at Delft Haven, on the deck of the *Speedwell*, was pregnant of results far more important than the conquest of kings the martial triumph of races. The peoples of the world have recognized it as the beginning of a nation unique in human annals. It is the scene painted in the rotunda of the Capitol at Washington and another picture of the "Embarkation" is one of the eight famous scenes of English History, in the corridor of the House of Lords.

What manner of men and women were those who sailed on the *Mayflower*. Those from Leyden were mostly of the English yeoman class. Little is known of the English home and origin of John Carver, the first Governor. It is believed that he was a yeoman farmer, born in Lincolnshire and that his wife was a sister of Robinson. He was one of the agents of the Congregation at London in the matter of the patent, and the negotiations with the merchant adventurers who financed the project. He was a deacon in the church and was confirmed in the governorship after the signing of the Compact. He died in the month of April, 1621, and his wife shortly thereafter, and they left no descendants.

Edward Winslow was the diplomatic agent of the Pilgrims and died in the service of the Protector, Cromwell. Isaac Allerton was the most enterprising commercially of them all. He had been a merchant in London and was the financial agent of the colony there for many years. The exploits of Miles Standish are so familiar that they need no repetition, and Samuel Fuller, a deacon of the church, was the physician and surgeon of the *Mayflower*. Steven Hopkins and John Alden were assistants to the Governor for many years. The

latter was hired as a cooper at Southampton and, "being a hopeful young man, was much desired." He was one of the fine characters of the Mayflower and was the last survivor of the signers of the Compact. John Howland came over as the servant of Governor Carver, but he was a prudent man and influential in after years.

Of the women of the Mayflower, we know very little. There is the legend that Mary Chilton first stepped on the rock at Plymouth and the romance of Priscilla has been told by her gifted descendant. Of her father, William Mullins, we know something, for Morton says, "he was a man pious and well deserving and of considerable outward estate."

The influence of the Scrooby-Leyden Church in the development of Congregationalism was twofold. The first Congregational Church, permanently established in England, was that at Southwark, London, in 1616, with Henry Jacob, a convert of Robinson at Leyden as its first pastor. During the great Puritan Revolution, Hampden, Milton, Sir Harry Vane and other great leaders, leaned toward Independency as Congregationalism in the New England way was then called. And it was the Independent preachers, led by Phillip Nye, and the Independent soldiers, led by Cromwell and Ireton, that drove Charles I. from his throne and brought him to the scaffold.

Governor Hutchinson in his History of Massachusetts, says, "the planters of Massachusetts, whilst they remained in England, continued communion with the church, such of them excepted as were excluded from it for non-conformity to some of the ceremonial parts of worship and they were all more or less dissatisfied. The canons and laws of the Church, and the rigid execution of them they accounted a grievous burden. The form of government in the Church was not a subject of complaint."

The first English Puritans to arrive were those under Endicott, who settled Salem; and in June, 1629, there came to that settlement, Mr. Skelton and Mr. Higginson, two non-

conforming ministers. On the 20th of July, following, a church was organized and the former was elected pastor and the latter teacher and both were ordained on the 6th of August, in the presence of a delegation from the Plymouth church. Morton says, "Letters passed between Mr. Higginson and Elder Brewster, and they did agree on their judgments, viz.: Concerning the church membership of the children with their parents, and that baptism was a seal of their membership, only when they were adult, they being not scandalous, they were to be examined by the church officers and upon their approbation of their fitness and upon the childrens publicly and personally owning of the covenant, they were to be received into the Lord's Supper." This was the second Congregational Church in New England, and was founded with the assistance and under the advice of the Scrooby-Leyden Plymouth Congregation.

In 1630, another church, after some correspondence with Plymouth, was organized at Charlestown, with four members, John Winthrop, Reverend John Wilson, Isaac Johnson, and Thomas Dudley. Thereafter the growth of the church throughout New England was rapid, and it led Governor Bradford to comment as follows, which is an able summary of the influence of the Pilgrims in moulding religious progress: "Thus out of smalle beginnings greater things have been prodused by His hand yt made all things of nothing, and gives being to all things that are, and as one smalle candle may light a thousand, so ye light here kindled hath shown to many, yea in some sorte to our whole nation."

Morton's relation of the formation of the church at Salem, says, "and because they foresaw that this wilderness might be looked upon as a place of living and therefore might in time be troubled with erroneous spirits, therefore they did put in one article into the confession of faith, on purpose, about the duty and power of the magistrate in matters of religion." This one article and its subsequent execution in Massachusetts Bay and Connecticut, has brought much

criticism upon the Puritans, a condemnation which should never be visited on the Pilgrims, for from the beginning their history is free from religious persecution. And while religious controversies such as that of Roger Williams and Anne Hutchinson, and the Antinomians, raged in Massachusetts, the annals of Plymouth are singularly free from any such contentions. Our condemnation of the Puritans, however, should not be too severe when we recall that they had to maintain civil government with no outside assistance, in a community, to which many turbulent characters flocked, and to whom any divergence of religion would have provided a rallying point for disaffection.

It was to the Pilgrims that Roger Williams fled when driven from Salem, and Anne Hutchinson and the Antinomians found an asylum within the territory of Plymouth Colony. As much as we like to honor Mr. Williams, we must not forget that he, himself, received his lesson in religious toleration at the feet of the Pilgrims, a fact which he acknowledged when he stated that the reason they asked him to settle across Narragansett Bay, and without their jurisdiction, was because they did not wish to offend more powerful Massachusetts. We can hardly acknowledge the liberality of this singular man when we consider that he believed it unlawful for an unregenerate man to pray or take the oath of allegiance or for a godly man to have a communion in prayer or in an oath with such as he judged unregenerate. And perhaps the reason for the religious toleration of Roger Williams was not so much because of the absence of bigotry from his mind as it was the spirit of opposition to the civil magistrates of Salem who did not agree with his own peculiar views.

There had been shuffled on the Leyden people at Southampton by the merchant adventurers in London, a considerable number of what Bradford calls, "profane people," and when it was determined to land at Cape Cod, these strangers amongst them, by discontented and mutinous speeches de-

clared none had power to command them, the patent being for Virginia and not for New England. And thus, born of the accident of necessity there was drawn up an instrument which Bancroft has called "the first written constitution in history," and on the 11th of November in the cabin of the Mayflower, it was signed, constituting in the words of the late Senator Hoar, "the most important political transaction that has ever taken place on the face of the earth."

Lest we forget, it is well to solemnly consider that brief compact in which there is embodied the spirit of all written constitutions since its time.

"In ye name of God Amen, we whose names are under writen, the loyall subjects of our dread soveraigne lord, King James, by ye grace of God of Great Britaine, France, and Ireland, King, defender of ye faith, etc., having undertaken for ye glorie of God, and advancement of ye Christian faith and honour of our king and countrie, a voyage to plant ye firste colonie in ye Northerne parts of Virginia. Doe by these presents solemnly and mutually in ye presence of God and one another; covenant & combine ourselves together into a civil body politick; for our better ordering & preservation & furtherance of ye ends aforesaid; and by virtue hereof to enacte, constitute and frame such just and equall lawes, ordinances, Acts constitutions and offices from time to time as shall be thought most meete and convenient for ye generall good of ye Colonie; unto which we promise all due submission and obedience."

It was the act of a little colony of humble English farmers, trained in shire and hundred moot, and manor Court, in the customs of their Saxon forefathers. It was the spirit of freedom undiminished through all the evolutions of society, working within them, and they having gained fresh strength and experience in the exercise of democratic church management at Scrooby and Leyden, when the occasion required, formulated a policy of government which is to-day almost universally accepted.

Therefore, the idea of sovereignty was based on the right of conquest, authority was in the superior and rights were granted to the inferior. The so-called early acts of the English Parliament were only the answers of the sovereigns to the petitions of the Commons. With the signing of the Compact, a new idea was established; that of sovereignty based on consent, and carrying with it the doctrine that rulers have only such powers as are manifested and determined in a written constitution proceeding from and agreed to by the body of the people. This is the theory of government to-day in North and South America; and among the other great nations of the earth, China, France, Poland, Spain and even the German Empire have written constitutions adopted by representatives of the people; while Japan, and Italy, and some of the lesser kingdoms have written constitutions granted by their sovereigns.

Under this fundamental agreement, the Pilgrims proceeded to develop their government. The assistants to the Governor, which they later chose, constituted his counsel, and the freemen of the colony composed the general court, which in imitation of the old shire and hundred moot to which they were accustomed, was supreme to elect officers, decide important questions and try offenses. At first a complete democracy and the original New England town meeting, with the growth of the colony and its expansion into several towns, the government, by a general court of all citizens, developed into an assembly of representatives of the several towns. There was thus evolved the theory of republican representative government based upon a written compact freely entered into by the governed. In other words outside all jurisdictions and unhampered by any authority from above and without any delegated powers they constituted themselves into a "body politic," a government of law and order, for the people, of the people and by the people.

This was the great precedent, first followed by the colonies of Connecticut and New Haven and which to an extent modified the charters of the other colonies. It was the precedent followed in the Agreement of 1643, which bound together the United Colonies of New England, our first free confederation. It was the precedent followed in the Declaration of 1776, and the various State Constitutions which followed it, and also of the fundamental law of 1787. Since that time the nations of the earth, inspired by these examples, have modeled their forms of government and adopted their constitutions after the pattern of the United States. Yet it is fair to say that neither of these great instruments, the Compact, the Declaration and the Constitution, upon which we base our laws and liberties, was the work of a single body of men at a single time. It was rather the evolution, of the ancient spirit of freedom, which has been so nobly vindicated in the civil liberty and religious toleration of the government of the United States.

THE PILGRIM TEMPLE BUILDERS.

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When the Pilgrims touched the shores of Massachusetts, the whole country north and south, was named Virginia. South Virginia extended from Cape Fear to the Potomac, and North Virginia from the mouth of the Hudson to Newfoundland; the intermediate territory was common ground. (See Bancroft, Vol. I, p. 120).

But the Virginians of Plymouth Rock were men who had little in common with the Virginians of the James River. Two settlements of kindred stock were established on the Atlantic coast; but from the very beginning it was evident that they were as unlike in character as the twins of the patriarch Isaac.

The contrast in the character of the two peoples is as great as that of the seasons in which they disembarked. The Virginians entered the broad waters of the Chesapeake unruffled by a storm, and floated up the silver streams, when spring was wearing all her wreaths to welcome them. The Pilgrims landed as shipwrecked mariners, in the depth of winter, on the ice-bound coast of Plymouth, glad to find a rock to give them footing in the sleet of the December blast.

The Virginians were vagabond gentlemen, "unprincipled young sparks", whom their parents were glad to ship off in order to save them from a worse fate at home; discharged servants, fraudulent bankrupts, rakes and debauchees.

The Pilgrims were men of good education and unblemished reputation, and some of them belonged to the intellectual nobility of Europe. The Virginians were adventurers, averse to labor, going to a wilderness in which

as yet not a single house was standing, with forty-eight gentlemen to four carpenters.

This is the concurrent testimony of all the historians of the colony. (See Bancroft, Vol. I, p. 138).

The Pilgrims were a band inured to difficulties, industrious and frugal, eager to wield the axe amid the peltings of the storm. They came with the loftiest purpose recorded in the annals of the race. Inspired with an undying love for liberty, mindful of the welfare of posterity, and with souls conscious of a sublime destiny under the favor of the great leader whom they served, they sailed to these shores impelled by a hope and inward zeal of advancing the gospel of the Kingdom of Christ in the remote parts of the New World.

This glorious aspiration brought them across the ocean, and when they landed on the snow-clad rocks, their first act was to kneel down and take possession of the continent in the name and for the sake of Christ.

Our purpose in this paper, however, is to speak of the institutions which the Pilgrims founded.

They are three, the Free Church, the Free School and the Free Commonwealth.

1. The Free Church. The church of England from its very beginning under Henry VIII, contained within it the germs of two parties, one, desiring to keep as closely as possible to the Romish polity and ceremonial as was consistent with a separate establishment; the other, inclined to make the reformation more thorough, by limiting the prelatical and royal supremacy, and by discarding as "rags of superstition" and hindrances to a pure and spiritual worship, many of the rites and ceremonies still retained in the Anglican church.

The compromise arranged by Cranmer had from the first been considered by a large body of Protestants as a scheme for serving two Masters. (Macauley, Vol. I, p. 49).

When "Bloody Mary" ascended the throne many of the

churchmen bowed before the storm of Papal persecution, and recanted or compromised their Protestant principles. But the Puritans stood firm.

While the flames at Smithfield were raging, many of those who were truly imbued with the spirit of the gospel fled to the Continent, and found refuge in the Protestant cities of Frankfort and Geneva. Here again were soon found the same differences of opinion which had existed in England. A controversy arose among the exiles in Frankfort between those who could conscientiously conform to the ritual of the English establishment and those who preferred the primitive simplicity of the reformed churches around them. And here at Frankfort in the year 1554, the more scrupulous and inflexible of the reformers were first called Puritans by their enemies. Within ten years the name was in common use in England. (Bacon's & Palfrey's Histories).

The Puritans remained as yet within the bosom of the English church, and shrank from any thought of separation. But after the accession of Elizabeth (1558), who was in belief more of a Papist than a Protestant and in temper a true daughter of Henry VIII, the breach between the Puritans and the Establishment was effected by the Queen herself.

When in the lower house of Convocation the questions were discussed, of the observance of Saints Days, of the use of the cope and sacrifice, of kneeling at the Communion, of the sign of the cross in baptism, etc., it appeared that that body was almost equally divided, the reformers losing the day by only a single vote out of a hundred and seventeen.

Therefore the Queen issued her imperial edict, that no worship should be tolerated outside of the Established church, and all who did worship should observe every jot and tittle of the royal ceremonial under penalty of ruinous fines, imprisonment and death.

The Puritans said, since the English church cannot be

reformed, it must be abandoned. These were the Puritans of the Puritans, who demanded nothing less than the entire freedom of conscience, and a complete separation from all observances opposed to the purity and simplicity of the Gospel of Christ.

With these convictions a handful of "godly Christians" in the North of England, in the village of Scrooby, under the lead of John Robinson and William Brewster, in the year 1606 organized themselves into an independent church. But this church could not live in England. By the Established church it was regarded with less favor than a den of thieves, and it speedily brought down upon its head the full measure of brutal vengeance from the authorities.

The scattered flock fled to the seaside, where a vessel was in waiting to carry them to Holland. But while the ship was loading a band of horsemen made their appearance on the beach and dragged off to the magistrates a large number of helpless women and children. There was great weeping and crying on every side. With great difficulty and through much misery, the weeping band at last joined their husbands and fathers, and so at last the Pilgrim church succeeded in finding a refuge in the city of Amsterdam. But like the wandering dove they found no place to rest. From Amsterdam they moved to Leyden and there for ten years "their continual labors and other crosses and sorrows left them in danger to scatter or sink."

They felt that in a foreign country there was danger of forgetting the language and the name of their beloved fatherland. They found themselves unable to give their children an education as they themselves had received, and they were grieved at the irreligion of the Dutch. There could be but one hope of holding the posterity of the Pilgrims to their rigid religious principles, and that was in isolating them. They were captivated with the idea of planting a new state, where according to their declared

intent, they "might with the liberty of a good conscience, enjoy the pure scriptural worship of God without the mixture of human inventions and impositions; and their children after them might walk in the holy ways of the Lord."

There was much discussion of the wisdom of the proposed migration, and much debate as to the direction of their removal. Guiana, so highly praised by Raleigh, tempted them with its perpetual spring, but it was too near to the cruel Spaniard.

There were tedious negotiations with the Virginia Company which were broken off, because King James refused to offend his conscience, or, perhaps, feared to wound his reputation for orthodoxy, by granting toleration to the separatists in their new colony. He would connive at their worship, if they carried themselves peaceably, but to give them a formal guaranty of toleration under the broad seal of England—never.

They finally procured a patent from the London or Virginia Company to settle in the neighborhood of Hudson's river, a geographical phrase, which meant at that time, nothing very definite. The colonists saw plainly that the battle would be a severe one, and there were those among them whose hearts failed. The younger and stronger were sent before, and only the willing-hearted.

More than half were willing to go, but not quite half could get ready in time, and so it fell to Robinson's lot to stay with the larger number, as had been agreed, while, the ruling elder Brewster, embarked with the smaller division.

As the time drew near for one of the most memorable leave-takings in human history, a day was appointed for humiliation and prayer. A good part of this time was occupied by the pastor's excellent discourse. Among other things he exhorted them to avoid separation from godly people of the church of England, and rather to study union

than division. He was a man free from pettiness and egotism. A man, who working in one of the obscurest corners of this jostling world, succeeded in training and sending out a people that expanded and diffused his teachings into the institutions and habits of thought of a great nation.

The last night in Leyden was passed almost without sleep. Those who were to remain gave a feast to the "removers" in the large house of the pastor. Here the night was spent in such social enjoyment as became people of their severe habit.

For the last time they sang together the rugged verses of those Psalms that were associated with all the intimate brotherhood of many years in Scrooby and Leyden. Their friends from Leyden accompanied them fourteen miles to Delft-haven, where their little ship, the *Speedwell* awaited them. Then followed the indescribable parting, the Dutch spectators on the quay shedding tears at the sight. Words were few. But at length Robinson's voice was heard in prayer and around him they all knelt for the last time, while he commanded them to the keeping of God. Like true Englishmen, the Pilgrims did not forget the proprieties of a public occasion; those on board the shabby little *Speedwell* fired a volley of small shot as a farewell to the friends on shore, and, with this beggarly show of ceremony, one of the most important migrations of the world's history set forth in July, 1620.

On the English coast they were joined by others, and by the greater of their two ships, the *Mayflower*. There were many vexatious delays, and the leakiness of the *Speedwell* forced them to put back twice, and finally to abandon her. Whereupon, leaving behind all the discontented and faint-hearted, the one hundred who adhered to the enterprise crowded themselves, and their most necessary supplies into the *Mayflower*, a ship of one hundred and eighty tons,

whose bad condition came near putting an end to the whole expedition. They had a stormy and wretched passage. They were wet almost continually, lived upon spoiled provisions, and were out from Plymouth, their last English port, more than sixty tedious days, falling in with land in November, not within the limits of the Virginia Company, from whom they held their charter, but among the embarrassing shoals of Cape Cod. They tried to sail to the southward, but the captain seemed not to be able to find his way through the shoals. The voyagers were sick of the discomforts of the ship and the perils of the sea; the women and children could not understand why one wilderness was not about as good as another.

So they turned about and dropped anchor in Cape Cod harbor, and thus it chanced that Puritanism, instead of planting itself in fertile lands farther to the south, was driven by rough winds to the shores of New England where the austere creed, the reluctant soil, and the rugged climate contributed to form that remarkable people, who have had so large a share in shaping the character and history of the United States.

When the Pilgrims touched the shores of Massachusetts as noted above, the whole country, north and south, was named Virginia. The Virginians of the James River came with all their laws and institutions shut up in a box, by order of King James, with strict order not to open it till they landed, and lo! when it was opened not a single element of popular liberty was to be found in it. The Pilgrims on the other hand fashioned their own institutions, and had provided for their civil and religious rights before they left the cabin of the Mayflower, not in the name of the King, but in the name of God.

What were the fruits of this Pilgrim church, and what its influence upon the spiritual destiny of New England? The answer to these questions we leave to the church

historian. Suffice it to say here, that these early settlers stamped this as the land of the Bible, the Sabbath, the Church and the School. Such was the leaven which God at the outset hid in our country—the leaven of Christian settlers and Christian institutions, and the hope of our land is the promise that the leaven will never cease working until the whole is leavened.

II. No sooner had the Pilgrims constituted their church and built its house of worship, than they founded the Free school, to be the tower of education. Bancroft, says that, “in the laws establishing common schools, lies the secret of the success and character of New England. Every child as it was born into the world, was lifted from the earth by the genius of the country, and in the statutes of the land received as its birthright a pledge of the public care for its morals and its mind.”

Six years only after the first settlement in Massachusetts Bay the colonists laid in Cambridge the foundation of a college.

This was the beginning. In the wilderness, before even their own houses were ceiled and plastered, these New Englanders provided schools and libraries and academies and colleges, in order that the great ends of a free Christian Commonwealth might not be frustrated through the ignorance of the people.

One of the favored sons of New England, having wandered back to the land of his ancestors, and having, first of all Americans, been presented with the freedom of the city of London, remembered his native town and the little school house in which he laid the foundation of all his fortune. He sent the old town of Danvers (now Peabody) \$25,000 to establish a library and then \$25,000 to build a library institute, and when his munificent donations were converted into these fair temples of learning, and Mr. Peabody himself came to attend the celebration, the people

stretched across the street a banner bearing the sentiment of the illustrious donor: "Education, the debt which the present owes to the future." That royal benefactor learned his lesson of the Pilgrims. All the way from Plymouth Rock to the last school house fashioned by New England emigrants towards the setting sun, extends the glorious legend, "Education, the debt which the present owes to the future."

III. We are to speak now of the third great institution which these men founded:

The Free Commonwealth, to be the tower of law. Before the Mayflower reached Plymouth Rock, there was the "Signing of the Compact." It is in these memorable words: "In the name of God, Amen. We whose names are underwritten, the loyal subjects of our dread sovereign King James, having undertaken, for the glory of God and advancement of the Christian faith and honor of our King and country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the northern part of Virginia, do by these presents solemnly and mutually in the presence of God and one another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil body politic, for our better ordering and preservation and furtherance of the ends aforesaid, and by virtue thereof, to enact, constitute and frame such just and equal laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions and offices from time to time, as shall be thought most convenient for the general good of the colony. Unto which we promise all due submission and obedience."

Here then, in the cabin of the Mayflower, we see distinctly recognized, for the first time in the progress of liberty, the fundamental principle of the right of the people to self government. Not in royal charters, nor in the enactments of a proud and privileged aristocracy, but in man as man, inheres the right to provide for his own liberties as a citizen and his own worship as a member of the body of Christ. Here in this immortal instrument is the record of

a consecration and coronation, by which all mankind are exalted to be kings and priests unto God; here is the primordial germ of that victorious empire which now spans the continent for free institutions. De Tocqueville says upon "Democracy in America" that the New England township is the unit from which all our national institutions have been multiplied. "The independence of the township", he says, "is the nucleus around which the local interests, passions, rights and duties collected and clung. It gave scope to the activity of a real political life, thoroughly democratic and republican. The colonists still recognized the supremacy of the mother country. Monarchy was still the law of the state, but the Republic was already established in every township." When later, the elder Adams was meditating upon the proper mechanism of a federal union, which should bind together the thirteen colonies, in harmony and liberty for the common good, he found the New England township ready, as the model of the state, which, while independent in its own affairs, should be subordinate to the general government in all those central powers and functions which belong to our existence as a nation; and the town meeting itself, in which every citizen of every rank directly participates in the responsibilities of government.

Two principles are especially conspicuous in these institutions of the Pilgrims: One, their true estimate of the dignity of man; the other, their reverence for law.

Heretofore there had been rights for rulers, rights for priests, rights for nobles, rights for favored guilds and corporations, rights for men—but no rights of man.

The nations had heretofore been constructed on the model of Nebuchadnezzar's image—the head was of gold, the breast and arms of silver, the thighs of brass, the legs of iron, and the feet of clay. The Puritan iconoclast smote down the image with the stone of justice, and in its stead set up a living man.

Several well-disposed English Lords made some overtures for immigration, on condition that their hereditary rank should be recognized by laws. To whom Rev. John Cotton, of Boston, answered, "When God blesseth any branch of any noble or generous family with a spirit and gifts fit for government, it would be of taking the name of God in vain to put such talent under a bushel, and a sin against the honor of magistracy to neglect such in our public elections.

"But if God should not delight to furnish some of their posterity with gifts for magistracy, we should expose them rather to prejudice and reproach, and the Commonwealth with them, than exalt them to honor, if we should call them forth whom God doth not, to public authority." (Palfrey).

And so it was that we never had any English Lords in America, but instead of them New England men.

The other great element of the Puritan freedom was reverence for law. The first settlers of New England came not here to evade authority for the liberty of doing what was good in each man's eyes. They looked upon society as of divine establishment, and upon law as the divine mandate. Nowhere was there a more law abiding community. Nowhere was the sword of justice so much a terror to evil doers. Governor Winthrop, declared with fine discrimination, "Liberty is the proper end and object of authority, and cannot exist without it, and it is a liberty only to that which is just and good and honest. This liberty you are to stand for with the hazard, not only of your goods, but of your lives, if need be. Whatsoever crosseth this is not authority, but a distemper thereof." (Bancroft).

Little did George III understand the character of the New England institutions and the spirit of the people, when he endeavored to wrest away their immemorial birthright and deprive them of the right of self-government by the

might of an armed soldiery. They hesitated, they remonstrated, they petitioned; but when the decisive moment came, they hesitated not. They took down the old musket from its resting place, and hastening from the parting kiss of heroic wives and mothers marched through the night to Lexington. And on that April morning which succeeded, the "embattled farmers" stood upon the green, undaunted by the foe. They fired the signal gun of Independence, and from that moment they rested not, through seven years of blood, till the starry flag unfurled at Cambridge was the symbol of a free and sovereign people.

ELDER JAMES BENEDICT *

THE PIONEER PREACHER OF THE WARWICK AND WYOMING VALLEYS.

The first settlers in Warwick, New York, were from New York City, having come into the valley with Benjamin Aske, a New York merchant whose share of the great Wawayanda Patent covered this part of Orange County. Aske was an Englishman, presumably from Warwickshire, as he gave the name "Warwick" to his tract of land. When he sold any of this land he invariably stated that it was from his "farm called Warwick."

The men who came with Aske were soon followed by many Connecticut families who sought new homes on the Wawayanda, or Warwick Creek, at the time that others from that State, many of them friends and relatives, were locating on the Susquehanna River in Westmoreland, Pennsylvania—in Connecticut's Western Reserve.

In 1764 these New Englanders, in Warwick, missed their Church association so much and longed for the preaching they had been accustomed to in their old homes so strongly, that they accordingly took action on the matter as their old records show. I quote from the minutes of their meetings just as they were set down with a quill pen in 1764.

Be it Recorded that the year of our Lord one Thousand seven hundred and sixty four The Lord of his infinite mecy and grace Having Begun and Caring on a gloryous work of Souls Being awakened and convered to Jesuf Chrif as we trust and being Deftitute of those ministerant Helpt and ordanances that our Souls now thurfted after and Being personally aquainted many of us with James Benedict who was a member of ye Baptis Church of Chrif at Stratfield†

*Copied from the original records of the Baptist Church in Warwick, N. Y., by Mrs. Elizabeth C. Van Duzer. (Mrs. G. M. Van Duzer).

†Stratfield, Connecticut.

under the pastoral Care of Mr. John Share-wood and S^d.* Benedict Being Lifered by that Church and other ministers to the work of preaching the gofpel a number of us joyntly agreeing together Drew up a letter and fent to S^d. Benedict to come over and help us which accordingly he did about ye middel of November 1764 and preached about two weeks to our joy and Satisfaction and then returned home again. fome time in Decembar 1764 Mr. Dakin a Regular Minefter of ye Baptis ordor Came over and preached with us and Baptifed three perfons.

March 1765 Some time in march 1765 we again fent a mefengar over to S^d. Benedict to come to our help who accordingly Came and brought a church Covenant* with him which when we had heard gave fellofhip to it it being agreeable to our prinfples and fentaments thofe of us that ware Baptifed entered into a follom injagment to be the Lords and gave ourfelves to the Lord and to one another by the will of god and figned the Covenant Then we Drew up a Letter of Requeft to the Church at Stratfield to give S^d. Benedict to us and fent a mefenger with S^d. Leater who Laid S^d. Leater Before S^d. Church who gave fellofhip to our Requeft and after Due confideration frealy and chearfully gave up S^d. Brother to us and to our Watch and Care and fent a Letter of ReCommndation to us which we gave fellofhip to and Brother Benedict gave himfelf up to us and figned the Covenant.

Nov. 7 1765 James Benedict was ordained November 7, 1765 and installed as Elder and pastor of the Baptist Church of Warwick. He thus became the first minister and this Church the first Church in the Valley.

For eleven years Elder Benedict was the pastor of this flourishing Church in the wilderness.

During the Revolutionary War his log meeting house stood in a grove of oak trees to the Eastward of the village.

"S^d." meaning Said Benedict.

*This Covenant is owned by his descendant, Miss Fanny Benedict of Warwick, N. Y. No doubt the same covenant was used when eleven years later "The S^d. Benedict" founded the Baptist Church in the Wyoming Valley. In a note on Pittston in appendix, Miner's "History of Wyoming Valley" is the statement, Rev. James Benedict was first minister there.

Here the men of Col. Dearboin's New England Regiment camped on its march from Fish-Kill ferry to Easton, Pa., to join Sullivan's Expedition against the Indians.

Meanwhile a number of the Elder's Church members had removed to Westmoreland, attracted by the accounts of that wonderful region.

In 1776 they besought him to follow them to that place and establish a Church, which he accordingly did. There were Benedicts there before his arrival and Blackmans also. Probably near relations. The Elder's wife was Mary Blackman of Green Farms, Conn.

August the Church Being met together for befnes our
Ye 1776 Breatheran at Westmoreland or Lacawano Laid
a request befor the Church representing Their
Scaterd Scurcomfances as Sheep not having a Shepherd
and Defierd help from This Church and it was agreed and
Voted to Send our Elder and two other Breatheran to
answer to their request or to Act in behalf of the Church
as they found matters. When they Came There who accord-
ingly went in Defember and finding twelve of our mem-
bers that w[ere] in Good Standing namely Jonathan weaks,
Samuel Robberds, Danel Cash, Daniel Roberts, Hezekiah
Roberts, Ebenezer Roberts, Ephraim Sanford femails, Abi-
gail Weaks, Abigail Roberts, Mary Roberts, Mary Cash,
Sarah Roberts, with maney others that ware in Good Stand-
ing in other Churches, with Six that ware then baptieft to
the number of thirty-two a Church was Constetuted at
which time these twelve members ware Dimeft from the
watch Care of this Church and jond with that and at the
return of our members we refeved a Letter of there perfed-
ings that gave us full fellofhip.

March at a Confrance Meating at *Starling it was then
8; 1777 unanamoufly Voted the Church under the pastoral
Care of Eldar James Benedict Showd Remove
to Westmoreland we Do frealy give up our Eldar to go
Before us to that land and we expect to follow after as
foone as providence will admit Signed in behalf of the
Whole Church

*Many members of Elder Benedict's Church lived at Sterling, and occasionally meetings were held at that place.

Mathias Degarmo	John Clark
James Howard	William Howard
David Rogers	Philip Kecham
John Miller	Thomas Morgin
Arther (?) Youmans	
John Carr	Elifebeth Degermo
Matthias Degermo Jr.	Rebecah Bates
Samuel Robeson	Elifebeth Rogers.
Philip Robbin Dim. 1812	Hannah Howard
John Barns.	Elizebeth Robbin.
Samuel Howard	Phebe Robeson
Jonathan Stepens	Mary Howard
Jonathan Silfbe	Anner Howard
Gerfham Bennit	Elifebeth Kaap (Knap?)
	Chriftana Silfbe

At a Church meating at Worwick Agust 21: 1777 after prayer to god for his Direction Decon Silfby was Chosen modarater then profeded to Bifnes and in Confederation of a Vote pafed in the Church March the Eighth for the removal of the Church to Westmoreland Some of the members Looking on Some tempral Deficatyes war Discureged and thought beft to Stop and not go which put the Elder under Grate Defikalty as to his tempral Intraft the Church Confedraing Same Voted that the Church Should Stop removing Wilst* next Spreing and the Elder to perfed to the advanteg of his tempral Intruft.

Warrack September the Third Day 1778 at our place of publeck Worfhep the Church being met together according to appointment to Confeder of Some votes that had bin pafed in the Church before Confarning the Church removing to Westmoreland where the Elder according to the foremenched votes had bin and being drove of by a Saveg Enemy and the whole Countrey laid in Diffolation which rendered it Imposfable for the Church to remove at Presant the Elder being returnd he was received by the Church again as a Pafteur and an Elder and he suffering Lofe by the Enemy as to temprals voted in the Church to help to Supply that want by Contrebuton

After the Elder had escaped with his family and some

*"Wilst" is very plainly written in the record and is used instead of "until".

of his neighbors after the battle, he returned to Warwick and never went back to Westmoreland except to visit.

He must often have thought longingly of the place where he had planned to make a home not only for himself, but for his Church and people.

But "Providence" did not "admit" as the record says. So his own numerous descendants, together with those of his congregation who were "Expecting to follow after," never became the loyal citizens of Pennsylvania that they doubtless would have done, had the Old Elder not been "drove of by a Saveg Enemy."

It is a great pleasure to me to be able to give to the Wyoming Valley Historical and Geological Society these records of my fourth (4th) great grandfather.

ELIZABETH C. VAN DUZER.

(Mrs. G. M. Van Duzer.)

Warwick, New York.

TOMBSTONE RECORDS FROM THE OLD
*COOPER OR BLANCHARD BURIAL
GROUND.

NEAR NO. 14 BREAKER, EXETER TOWNSHIP, PA.

COPIED BY JOHN H. ABBOTT,

of Kansas City, Missouri. May, 1921.

A.

James Armstrong, d. Nov. 30, 1815, ae. 73-7-14.

Amy, wife of Jas. Armstrong, d. Mar. 31, 1833, ae. 88-7-19.

James Armstrong, Jr., d. Dec. 27, 1846, ae. 71-2-18.

In memory of Robert M., son of John and Hannah Abbott,
who died July 10, 1836, ae. 4 yrs. 11 mos. 24 ds.

B.

Sarah, wife of Eli Baker, d. April 3, 1850, aged 48 years, 8
mo. and 8 days.

George, died Oct. 26, 1860, aged 3 mo.; Louisa, died Aug.
29, 1861, aged 16 days; children of John and Mary Ann
Burgert.

In memory of George, son of John and Sarah Blanchard,
born Mar. 18, 1825, d. Aug. 12, 1841.

Jeremiah Blanchard, died Oct. 19, 1838, ae. 39 yrs. 6 days.

In memory of Nancy Blanchard, who departed this life
September 24, 1809, aged 18 years.

Jeremiah Blanchard, died May 25, 1837, aged 73 years 6 mo.

In memory of Martha, wife of Jeremiah Blanchard, born
Oct. 12, 1766, died July 26, 1844.

John Bogard, d. June 21, 1854, ae. 73-5-6.

Elizabeth, wife of John Bogard, d. Aug. 22, 1853, aged 66
yrs. 7 mo. 18 days.

Elizabeth, wife of Samuel Billings, born Feb. 3, 1820, died
Nov. 17, 1852, ae. 32 yrs. 9 mo. 14 days.

George D., son of Samuel and Elizabeth Billings, died
March 6, 1846, ae. 4-1-22.

John, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Billings, d. Feb. 28, 1846,
ae. 2 yrs. 11 mo.

Amzy, son of John and Elizabeth Bogard, d. March 16, 1828,
ae. 10-7-3.

*NOTE.—The graveyard is almost obliterated by weeds and general
débris of time and neglect.

In memory of Ransileer Billinas, who died Apr. 1st, 1806, aged 39 years.

Martha, daughter of John and Elizabeth Bogard, d. March 15, 18 —, ae. 7 mo.

John Brown, died June 15, 1841, ae. 6-5-18.

Benjamin S., son of Philo and Catherine Bower, d. Apr. 21, 1834, ae. 1-1-2.

C.

Andrew Croop, died 1832, Æ. 34 years.

Letitia, wife of Gilbert Coutant, d. May 13, 1860, aged 73-10-10.

Robert S. Cox, born Apr. 22, 1822, in Somersetshire, England, died Sept. 17, 1849.

In memory of Henry Cortright, Jr., d. Feb. 2, 1828, aged 10 years, 6 mo. 12 days.

Benjamin, son of Benjamin and Sarah Cooper, d. Oct. 23, 1830, ae. 3-10-20.

D.

Sacred to the memory of Mary David, who departed this life Jan. 26, 1816, ae. 36-9-1.

William Day, born in England and died Feb. 7, 1829, aged 69 yrs. 6 mo.

Mary M., consort of Wm. Day, d. July 5, 1862, aged 80 years.

F.

George W., son of Jacob and Elizabeth Frederick, died Nov. 4, 1855. Æ. 4 yrs. and 6 mo., 13 days.

William Fox, private Co. F. 3rd Regt. Penna. Artillery.

G.

In memory of Elizabeth, consort of Jacob Good, and daughter of P. and M. Saylor, who died Feb. 27, 1825.

H.

Giles Hay, died March 13, 1856, aged 29 yrs. 11 mos. 3 days.

Samuel Hay, died Aug. 5, 1849. Æ. 32 yrs. 8 mo. and 17 days.

Elizabeth, wife of Henry Hay, died Nov. 18, 1848, aged 54 years.

Isaiah Hale, died March 12, 1844, aged 30 yrs., 11 mos., 6 days.

Jasper N., son of I. and P. Hale, d. Sept. 11, 1843, ae. 1-7-15.

In memory of Margaret, consort of Abraham Hess, who departed this life March 18, 1827, aged 57 yrs.

K.

Nany, wife of John Kennedy, d. Apr. 29, 1847, 64-1-6.

L.

Silvanus, son of C. and M. Labar, died Sept. 10, 1850, age 12-5-26.

Almon Labar, d. Apr. 20, 1854, ag. 19 mo. 4 da.

In mem. of Eve, consort of John LaBar, who departed this life, June 10, 1809, ae. 36-2-10.

Elizabeth, daughter of John and Eve LaBar, died June 5, 1809, ae. 18-6-6.

Jacob Labar, died Aug. 31, 1850, ae. 18 mo. and 21 days.

M.

Charlotte, daughter of Jacob and Hannah Miller, died Aug. 31, 1845, ae. 1-11-24.

Margaret, wife of Andrew Mock, died Feb. 10, 1851, aged 64 years.

George Miller, died Jan. 23, 1849, ae. 74-8-1 day.

Elizabeth, wife George Miller, died Sept. 23, 1842, ae. 65 yrs. 2 mo. and 25 days.

George P., son of John and Catherine P. Miller, died Mar. 13, 1851, ae. 4-4-2.

Welton S., son of Jacob and Hannah Miller, d. Oct. 5, 1849, ae. 1 yr. 6 mo. 5 days.

N.

Rebecca, wife of Isaac Nafus, died Oct. 30, 1861, aged 72 yrs. 8 mo. 10 days.

P.

Sarah, wife of E. H. Price, d. May 31, 1852.

Sarah J., dau. of John and Ann Pace, died Sept. 2, 1852, aged 1-1-12

S.

Mary E., dau. of Martin and Elizabeth Shiffer, died May 31, 1844, aged 3 yrs. 29 days.

Lizzie, dau. of Wm. W. and Mary A. Stucker, d. Jan 2, 1863. Æ. 7 mo. 1 day.

In memory of Hannah, dau. of Samuel and Hannah Saylor, born June 26, 1841, d. May 11, 1844, aged 2 years, 10 mo. 18 days.

Sarah, wife of Jacob Sanders, d. Dec. 4, 1856, aged 52 years, 8 mo. and 14 days.

Elizabeth Swallow, d. Apr. 15, 1814, ae. 60-3-3.

James Swallow, d. Feb. 2, 1804, ae. 50-11-7.

James Swallow, d. Jan. 7, 1816, ae. 26-11-21.

Daniel Swallow, d. Nov. 24, 1814, ae. 23-9-9.

Elizabeth Smith, d. Aug. 5, 1850, aged 24 years.

Henry S., son of Arthur and Louisa Smith [she was the daughter of Henry Courtright and Rachel Gore], died Apr. 5, 1849, ae. 27-2-6.

Ruth Ann, daughter of Arthur and Louisa Smith, died Jan. 22, 1832, ae. 4-8-15.

Fanny L., daughter of Arthur and Louisa Smith, died Apr. 27, 1857—15 yrs. 6 mo.

Conrad, son of William and Catherine Stucker, died June 12, 1841, ae. 14-9-17.

Ellen, dau. of William and Catherine Stucker, d. Jan. 15, 1840, ae. 15-3-27.

Adam, son of William and Catherine Stucker, died Jan. 2, 1831, ae. 11-6-13.

Janee, dau. of Jeremiah and Mary Ann Shiffer, d. Dec. 16, 1851, aged 10 mo., 24 days.

Zum Andenken, von Conrad Schiffer, ist Geböhren den 18 May, 1742; Er starb den 18 May, 1820, im alter 78 Jahr.

Paul Schiffer, 27 June, 1749, d. Jan., 1810.

In memory of Margaret, wife of Peter Saylor, died February 16, 1849, ae. 77-3-5.

Elizabeth, wife of Joseph Stout, died Dec. 1, 1842, aged 74 years.

T.

Almon Thompson, died Jan. 20, 1822, aged 2 mo. 9 days.

David, son of I. and M. Thompson, d. Mar. 8, 1833, aged 4 years, 9 mo. 8 da.

Mary, wife of James Thompson, born at Greenwich, N. J., died Aug. 14, 1853, ae. 73-4-22.

Susannah, wife of James Thompson, died Nov. 15, 1838.
Æ. 88 yrs., 2 mo. and 28 days.

James Thompson, died Sept. 25, 1846. Æ. 87 yrs., 8 mo.
and 21 days.

In memory of Margaret, wife of Adam Tedrick, who died
June 6, 1811, ae. 33 years, 6 mo., 23 days.

In memory of Hannah, wife of William Tompkins, who died
March 18, 1830, aged 29 years, 7 mo.

George, son of Wm. and Hannah Tompkins, died Sept. 1,
1846, ae. 21 yr., 7 mo., 4 ds.

W.

Nancy, wife of Isaac Wilcox, died June 15, 1857, aged 92
years and 20 days.

Louisa, dau't. of James and Olive Worden, born Mar. 18,
1837, died May 27, 1855, aged 18 yr., 2 mo., 9 days.

Susannah Wood, died Feb. 5, 1850, ae. 62-3-26.

Sarah A., dau. of John and Elizabeth Wagner, died Oct. 24,
1838, ae. 6 yr. and 24 days.

Adam Wagner, born 29 Sept., 1754, d. 27 January, 1806,
ae. 50, 3, 28 days.

Margaret, wife of Adam Wagner, d. June 20, 1843, ae. 82
yrs., 7 mos.

In memory of Margaret, daughter of Peter and Eliza
Winter, who d. August 11, 1822, aged 1 yr., 1 mo.

In memory of Peter Winter, who departed this life March
14, 1814, aged 65 yrs., 7 mo., 3 days.

Margaret, wife of Peter Winter, died Feb. 4, 1833, aged 81
years.

Nelson Was, died June 30, 1864, aged about 42 yrs.

THE RECORDS OF THE PROBATE COURT OF
WESTMORELAND IN THE COUNTY OF
LITCHFIELD, IN THE COLONY
OF CONNECTICUT.

LIBER A.

FROM JANUARY 6, 1777, TO JUNE 16, 1783.*

Page 1.

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 6th Day of January A D 1777 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge; Administration was granted to Mary Nelson of s^d Westmoreland on the Estate of Asa Lyons late of s^d Westmoreland deceas'd who became jointly & severally bound with John Staples of s^d Westmoreland in the penal sum of forty Pounds L. Money for the faithful performance of s^d trust——

At the same time Administration was granted to Mary Baker of Westmoreland afores^d on the Estate of John Baker late of Westmoreland deceas^d, who became bound, With William Reynolds to the Judge of probate for the Deftrict of Westmoreland in the penal sum of three hundred pounds L. Money for the faithful performance of s^d trust

At the same Court Administration was granted to John Staples of s^d Westmoreland on the Estate of Jonathan Stowel late of s^d Westmoreland deceas^d who became bound to Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge of probate for the Deftrict of Westmoreland jointly & severally with Timothy Rofs of Westmoreland afores^d in the penal sum of two hundred pounds L. Money for the true & just performance of s^d trust

At a Court of probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Destrict of Westmoreland present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge on the 10th Day of March A. D. 1777 Administration was granted to Perin & Aleph Rofs who became

*Copied *verbatim et literatim* by S. Judson Stark of West Pittston, Pa., from the original record book of the old Westmoreland Probate District; to which the compiler has added a complete alphabetical index containing all the names mentioned therein. 1922.

Through the courtesy of William A. Wilcox, the records are now in the possession of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society.

jointly & severally bound in a Bond of five hundred pounds L. money with Constant Searles of s^d Westmoreland to the Judge of Probate for the Destrict of Westmoreland for the faithful performance of s^d trust s^d Administration was granted on the Estate of Jeremiah Rofs Deceased——

Page 2.

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Destrict of Westmoreland on the 11th Day of March A D 1777 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge holding s^d Court, then W^m Nelson was joind in Administration with Mary Nelson upon the Estate of Asa Lyons late of Westmoreland Deceas'd, & had a Letter of Administration given to him, who became bound with John Staples of s^d Westmoreland in a Bond of one hundred pounds L. money for the faithful performance of s^d trust——

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Destrict of Westmoreland on the 18th Day of March A D 1777 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge holding s^d Court, then Administration was granted to James Forsyds of s^d Westmoreland upon the Estate of Ephraim Whelor of s^d Westmoreland deceas'd who became bound in a Bond of three hundred pounds L. money for the faithful performance of s^d trust, jointly & severally with John Staples of s^d Westmoreland as suerty——

At a Court of probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Destrict of Westmoreland on the 18th Day of March 1777 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge, then the Inventory of the Estate of Jonathan Stowel was exhibited to this Court upon the Oath of John Staples Administrator, & the same was approved by s^d Court & ordered to be recorded The Inventory is as follows (viz)——

This is a true & perfect Inventory of the Estate of Jonathan Stowel late of Westmoreland deceas'd & a true appraisal of s^d Estate——

One certain tract or parsel of Land situated in s ^d Westmoreland containing about 55 Acres prised at.....	£ 88	0
1 heffer	1	10
1 Chest		8
1 Table		9
1 small Cask		3

Page 3.

1	Bead	£	2	5	
1	Beadstead			3	
1	Small share			1	
1	Small Iron pot.....			6	
1	Bed Quilt	0		6	
1	oald Bale	0		1	
1	half Barrel	0		3	
1	Bread Tub	0		2	
12 ^{lb}	oald puter.....	0	10		
2	tin Cups	0	0	8	
1	Coffee pot			1	
1	Wood Square				6
1	Jack plane			1	
1	Smoothing plane			2	
1	Rabbet			1	6
1	plane Iron			1	6
1	p ^r of hame Irons.....			1	6
1	Hoe Blade				6

W^m DUNN
 RICHARDSON AVERY } Aprezers
 JAMES GREEN } under Oath

The Ufe of Stowels farm after his deceafe... 10

£104 17 2

The foregoing is a true record of the Inventory of the Estate of Jonathan Stowel late of Westmoreland deceaf'd as exhibited by the Administrator upon his Oath.

Teft

I. BALDWIN Clerk

At the same Court was ordered by the Judge to set off to the Widdow of s^d Jonathan Stowel of Westmoreland six Pounds L. money as her thirds of the Estate of her husband Deceaf'd & the rest & residue of what should remain after the just Debts & funeral Charges should be paid to be appropriated to the Widow for the maintenance of several helplefs children & the Administrator was accordingly ordered to pay the same to her as soon as the Estate should be finally settled.

Debts due from the Estate being £84 10s L. money.

Page 4.

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Defrict of Westmoreland on the 20th Day of March A D 1777 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge Then the Inventory of the Estate of Asa Lyons late of Westmoreland deceas'd was exhibited to this Court on the Oaths of W^m Nelson Administrator & Mary Nelson Administratrix of s^d Estate which being approved by the Judge was ordered to be recorded the Inventory is as follows (viz)

Westmoreland March 8th 1777 An Inventory of the personal & real Eftate of Asa Lyons deceas'd. viz

I half of a right or share in the Susquehannah purchase	£ 25	0
I Side Saddle	1	15
I Broad ax 15/ 1 narrow ax 5/.....	1	
I Chain 12/ 1 Churn 5/ 1 great Chare 5/...	1	2
I meal Chest 5/ 1 Iron Trammel 12/.....		17
I pair flat Irons.....		5
I Iron Kettle 6/ 2 not Bowls 4/.....		10
I Ex ⁿ against Asahel Drake.....	1	
I Recp ^t Given by James Babcock for an Ex ⁿ vs Benedic Saterly.....	10	
I Note of hand vs Joseph Spencer for £27...	25	
I Note of hand vs Joseph Spencer for £9....	8	
I Order given by Christopher Avery upon Capt Landon for 9/.....		9
I Order that Benedic Saterly gave to Afa Lyons upon Benj ⁿ Baley for an ax.....		7
I Book Account vs Joseph Spencer 7/ 9d....		6
I Note of hand vs Gideon Baldwin.....	45	
I Ex ⁿ vs Benedic Saterly of £13.....	8	
I Note of hand vs Simon Spaldin £1 8....	1	8
I Note of Hand vs Libeus Tubbs £5 16....	5	16
I Acc ^t vs Crocker Jones £2 16.....	2	16
I order upon the Town treasurer 20s.....	1	
	£139	11

Westmoreland March the 11th 1777

then We the subscribers met & apprised the above Articles belonging to the Estate of Asa Lyons deceas'd & Exhibited by the Adm^x to us for appraisal under Oath pr us

OBADIAH GORE Ju ^r	} apprifers under Oath
AFA STEVENS	
JONATHAN FITCH JR	

The above is a true record

Test ISAAC BALDWIN Clerk

Page 5.

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 28th Day of March A D 1777 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge holding s^d Court then Letters of Administration was granted unto Sylas Harvey of s^d Westmoreland upon the estate of Benjamin Harvey late of s^d Westmoreland deceas'd who became jointly & severally bound with Ezekiel Pierce as suerty in the penal sum of five hundred pounds L. money for the faithful performance of his trust——

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 31st Day of March A D 1777 present Nathan Dinifon Esq^r Judge, then Administration was granted to Israel Walker upon the Estate of Isaak Walker late of Westmoreland deceas'd who became bound with Amaziah Cleveland in bond of one hundred pounds L. money for the faithful performance of his trust——

At a Court of probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge on the 1st Day of April A D 1777 then Administration was granted to John Jenkins Esq^r upon the Estate of Adonijah Daniels late of Westmoreland deceas'd who became bound in a Bond of five hundred pounds L. money for the performance of his trust with Thomas Bennet as Suerty——

At the same Court was exhibited by the said John Jenkins Esq^r an inventory of the Estate of the s^d Adonijah Daniels deceas'd, who was sworn to the truth of the same s^d Inventory in the Words following (viz) An Inventory of the Estate of M^r Adonijah Daniels late of Westmoreland in Connicticut Colony deceased taken by us the Subscribers (viz)——

Page 6.

1 Sarge Coat at 30/.....	£	1	10
1 Cotton & Silk waistcoat at 5/.....			5
1 linnen striped D ^o at 5/.....			5
1 Blue plane Cloth D ^o at 3/.....			3
1 Barcelona Handkerchief @ 2/.....			2
2 p ^r trowsers @ 3/6 1 oald hat 1/6.....			5
1 p ^r Leather Breeches at 9/.....			9

upor & soal leather at 14/.....			14	
2 Knives & p ^r of Shoebuckels 2/.....			2	
1 Young Man's Companion @ 3/6.....			3	6
1 Neck Band & Buckel @ 1/ 1 Ax 5/.....			6	
1 Hoe 2/ 1 p ^r pincers 1/3.....			3	3
1 Note of hand 96/.....	4		16	
1 p ^r Betle rings @ 2/ 1 p ^r of stockings 4/.....			6	
160 Bushels of Indian Corn @ 2/ pr B.....	16			
½ meadow Lot in Wilksberry N ^o 10.....	37		10	
Corn Stalks at 15/ Flax 13/4.....	1		8	4
part of Chain @ 6/ 1 Shoe knife @ 1/.....			7	
1 silver Broach 1/3 1 p ^r Stockings 3/.....			4	3
Fat tub & pail @ 2/6 Meal Barrel 1/6.....			4	
Beans 8/			8	
			<hr/>	
			£ 65	1 4

The above is a true & yust Inventory of the aboves^d Estate as turnd out for us to apprize

Test p^r ANDERSON DANA } Apprizers
ELISHA BLACKMAN } under Oath

Febuary 9th 1777 [Sic]

Truly recorded

p^r ISAAC BALDWIN Clerk

At a Court of probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the 8th Day of April 1777 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then Administration was granted to Joshua Stevens of s^d Westmoreland upon the Estate of Ezekial Hamlington deceafd who became bound with Constant Searles in a bond of one hundred pounds L. money for the faithful performance of s^d trust

Page 7.

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland on the 15th Day of April A. D. 1777 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then the Administrator of the Estate of Asa Lyons Deceas^d was orderd to pay out of ye s^d Estate £6 9 10 to the several Creditors of s^d Estate—

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the 19th Day of April 1777 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then Administration was granted to Anna Johnson of s^d westmoreland on the Estate of Nath^l Johnson who became Bound in a bond

of £200 L. money with Ezbon (?) Hatch for the faithful performance of s^d Trust

At a Court of probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the 1st Monday of May A D 1777 present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge then was exhibited to s^d Court by Mary Johnson Administratrix of the Estate of Nath^l Johnson deceafed an Inventory of s^d Estate sworn to by s^d Administrator s^d Inventory in the words following (viz)

The Inventory of the Estate of Nath^l Johson [Sic] late of Westmoreand deceafd

1 Brown Cow	£ 4	10	
1 red Cow	3	10	
1 2 Year old Heffer.....	2	5	
1 Dozen of plates.....		13	
1 Dozen of spoons		2	
Knives & forks	1		6
2 Platters		10	
Oald puter		11	
1 spider pan		7	
1 Dish kittle		12	
1 Iron pot	1		
1 Bed & Beding	4		
1 Bed quilt	1		

Page 8.

Sheets	£	12	
half worn Clothing		9	
D ^o Curtains		6	
1 Canefter 1/6 Cotton Wool 2/.....		3	6
1 Ax 3/ 1 piller Cafe 2/.....		5	
Cash	8	10	8
1 Note against Rufus Williams.....	3	12	6
1 Book Acc ^t against Cap ^t Gallop.....	3	15	4
	£ 36	17	6

The above is a true apprifal of the Estat turnd out to us by the Administratrix Aprizd April 22^d 1777 by

THOMAS MILLARD } Aprizers under
RUFUS WILLIAMS } Oath

The foregoing is a true Record

Teft ISAAC BALDWIN Clerk

An Inventory of the Estate of Isaak Walker late of Westmoreland deceas^d taken by us the Subscribers Apprizers to s^d Estate as [*Sic*] as follows

I Cloas bodied Coat.....	£	3	
I D ^o D ^o		I	
I Cheet flannel Shirt.....			12
I p ^r of oald lether Breeches.....			4
I p ^r of oald Stockings.....			9
I Gun		I	4
I Ax 6/ I Hoe 3/6.....			9 6
I Sickel			3
Cash £7 10 0.....	7	10	
I singing Book			I
	£	15	12 2

Estate Shown to us by Israel Walker Adm^r to s^d Estate & apprized by us under Oath in Westmoreland May ye 20th 1777

CONSTANT SEARLES } Aprizers
DATHIC (?) HEWET } under Oath

Th foregoing Inventory was exhibitd by the Administra-
tor & approved of by the Judge

Truly recorded by

I BALDWIN Clerk

Page 9.

An Inventory of the Estate of Ephraham Wheeler of Westmoreland defeasd as taken May 9th A D 1777 and aprised as hereafter enterd by us the Subscribers under Oath——

I Iron Spade	£	6	
I half Bushel		I	6
I Inch & half Plyer.....			4
I ¾ Plyer I inch & ½ Plyer 2/.....			4
I p ^r Sekefels (?).....			3
I p ^r (?) lock			I
2 ^{ld} 9 ownces old puter			3
I Shirt 12/ I Grinstone 8/.....	I		
I Ax 4/ I Washing Tubb 2/.....			6
I inch Plyer 2/ I broad Ax 18/.....	I		

I Square 9/	I Brown Cow £3.....	3	9
I Blanket 7/	I Shirt 10/.....		17
I p ^r Stockings 4/	I Snapsack 2/.....		6
I Tomhak & Speer			6
I Order on Joseph Crocker.....	I	8	
I Order on Kingsly Comstock.....		12	
I Cow Hyde		10	

£ 10 11

Truly recorded p^r

I BALDWIN Register

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland presnt Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge on the 2^d Day of June, A. D. 1777 then was exhibited to this Court on the Oath of the Adminiftrator the Inventory of the Estate of Ezekial Hamlington Deceafd approv^d by the Judge & orderd to be recorded the Inventory in the Words following (viz)

An Inventory of the Eftate of of Ezekial Hamlington late of Westmoreland deceafd taken by us the Subscribers

Page 10.

Apprizers to s^d Estate under Oath this 2^d Day of June 1777 which are as af [*Sic*] follows

viz

I Cloas Bodied Coat & Waitcoat.....	£	I	4
I oald hat 6/	2 p ^r Drawers 3/.....		9
2 oald Shirts			3
I Cow £5	10 two Swine 24/.....	6	14
5 Shoats 30/	2 puter platters 12/.....	2	2
I Dozen of plates 14/	3 puter Bafons 6/....	I	
I pint Bafon 1/	I puter Quart 3/.....		4
oald puter 2/	I tea pot 4/.....		6
Earthen Ware 10/	2 earthen pots 1/8.....	11	8
2 pails 3/	2 wooden Bowls 2/.....		5
I Teakittle 8/	I Iron pot 10/.....		18
2 flats 4/6	I Ruler 2/.....	6	6
I Dye Tub 3/	I frying pan 4/.....		7
I feather Bed Bolster & 2 pillows & fur ^{re}		6	

I Chair 2/6	2 Wheels 16/	1 Table 3/.....	I	I	6
three smal Baskets 5/.....					5
I Note of hand with Interest			9	14	2
I D ^o with Interest			I	15	10
I D ^o ———			I	7	2
			Total £ 34 9 10		

Errors Excepted

CONSTANT SEARLES } Apprisers
DATH^k HEWIT }

Truly recorded the 2^d of June 1777

p^r ISAAC BALDWIN Clerk

At the same Court the said Estate was rendered Insolvent by the Adminiftrator & Comifisioners was appointed by the Judge viz Mefrs Constant Searles & Dathick Hewet of Westmoreland to examin the Claims & make report to this Court——

Page 11.

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge on the 4th Day of June A. D. 1777 then Adminiftration was granted to Mehitabel Roods on the Estate of Michael Roods late of Westmoreland deceafd who became bound in a bond of £100 L. money with John White for the faithful performance of her trust——

An Inventory of the Eftate of Michal Roods late of Westmoreland deceafd is as follows as Exhibited by the Adminiftr^x under Oath (viz)

Westmoreland June ye 28th Day 1777 then prized the Eftate of Micah Roods deceasd

The farm	£100	
1 Cow	9	
6 Sheep	6	
2 Cattles & Span.....	2	2
2 Cages		6
1 great Wheal & 1 little Wheal.....	1	5
2 pales		4
2 tubbs		6
1 tray 1 Bool & 1 Churn.....		9
2 oald Axes & 1 How.....		13
40 ^{lb} flax	3	

1 Barrel	2	
8 Hoggs	6	
		Prized by WILLIAM STARK } Aprizers
		JOHN WHITE } under Oaths
1 Note of Hand against perin Roifs for seven pounds.....	£ 7	
Truly recorded July 3 ^d A. D. 1777		
		p ^r ISAAC BALDWIN Clerk

Page 12.

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 9th Day of July A. D. 1777 present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge, then the laft Will & Testament of Howlet Hazen deceaid was exhibited to said Court by the Executor Saviah Hazen of said Westmoreland & proved according to Law by the Oaths of Richardson Avery & William Dun Witnefses to s^d Will——

The Will is in the Words following (viz)

In the Name of God Amen; I Howlet Hazen of Westmorland in the County of Westmoreland; Being week in Body but of sound mind & memory (blefsed be God therefor) Do this fifth Day of May in the Year of our Lord 1777 make & publish this my laft will and testament in manner & form following (that is to say Imprimis I recommend my Soul to the hands of Almighty God who gave it me and my Body to the Earth from whence it came to be decently byryed after my deceafe by my Executor hereafter appointed: Item: I give to my loving Wife Saviah Hazen half of all my moveable Estate to be at her intire Disposal & the one third part of the farm I am now poft in the Deftrict of Wilkesberry during the term she shall continue my Widow after my deceafe and no longer & in consideration of her bringing up my four youngest Children untill my son Jabez Hazen arives to the Age of 22 Years old I give to my s^d Wife Saviah Hazen the whole improvement of my s^d farm in the Deftrict of Wilkesberry untill my s^d Son Jabez Hazen shall arive to the Age of twenty two years oald——Item I give to my eldeft Son Darius Hazen and to my son Jabez Hazen & Nathan Hazen & Asa Hazen & Eliezer Hazen & David Hazen and to my two Daughters (viz) Saviah Bushnal & Lydia Hazen their Heirs & afsigns all the rest of my Estate as well real as personal to be divided among them in manner following (that is to say) To each of my s^d Sons equally two shares each

Page 13.

as there full parts of my Eftate and to my s^d Daughters one half as much to each of them as as that I have heretofore ordered to my said sons: Committing what I have already given to my s^d Daughter Saviah Bushnal to be towards her part or share of my Eftate so far as that will amount towards her part——and if it shall so happen that either of my s^d Sons or my s^d Daughters shall not live untill my son Jabez shall arive to the age of twenty two Years that then that part allotted for them to be divided among the rest in the same proportion as the rest of my Estate is divided among them——and I do make constitute & appoint my loving wife Saviah Hazen sole Executrix of this my laft Will and it is my will that my s^d Wife be not accountable for any bad debts now outstanding & now I the s^d Howlet Hazen have set my hand & seal to the second page of this my laft will containing 2 pages, at Westmoreland Day & Date above mentioned

HOWLET HAZEN (Seal)

Signd, Seald, & deliverd by the testator as & for his laft Will & testament in the prefence of us who were present in the Room at the signing & Sealing thereof

Richardson Avery

William Dunn Ju^r

Thomas Dunn——

Truly recorded this 10th Day of July 1777

p^r ISAAC BALDWIN Clerk

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At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 10th Day of July A. D. 1777 present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge, the Inventory of ye Eftate of Jeremiah Rofs was then exhibited by Aleph Rofs Adminiftratrix under Oath in the Words following (viz.)

An Inventory of the Eftate of Jeremiah Rofs of Westmoreland deceaft taken on the 11th Day of March A. D. 1777 and apprifed by us the Subscribers——

About 260 Acres of Land with the Buildings on the same where the Deceased last lived	}	£125		
About 30 Acres of Land being in the same deftrict and is what was laid out for a lot in the 1 st Division in s ^d Deftrict...			}	75
About 3 Acres & 2/3 of Land in the Town plot in s ^d Deftrict with a small house on the same.....	}	20		
One Susquehannah Right being his own original right in the s ^d purchase.....			}	60
1/2 right as purchased of Eliezer Bowmen By Deed Dated the 5 th of April 1774..	}	30		
1/2 Right as bought of Major John Durkee as Comt ^{cc} April 21 st 1773.....			}	30
1/2 Right as Bough of John Durkee by Deed dated Jan ^y 27 th 1774.....	}	30		
1 Negro Slave at £30.....					30
1 Yoke Oxen £15 3 Cows 15.....			30	
1 Year oald Heffer 30/ 1 horskind (?) £11..			12	10
8 large Shoats at 15/ each.....			6	
11 of a smaller size at 10/ each.....			5	
1 Sow & seven pigs @ 25/.....			1	5
6 Sheep & 4 lambs at 10/ each.....			5	
2 Tuns of hay £2 10/ Tun.....			5	
Flax in the sheaf to make 100 ^{lb} of Drest flax £2 10			2	10

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Oats in Sheaf & thrashed about 40 Bushels @ 1/6 pr Bushel.....	£	3		
1 Ox Yoak & Irons 8/ 1 Ax 5/.....			13	
1 mortis Ax 5/ 2 hatchets Axes 6/ each....			17	
1 Set of horstakling & whiptree Chain....		1	5	
2 Large Draght Chains 12/ each.....		1	4	
1 small D ^o 5/			5	
1 p ^r Betle Rings & 1 Wedge @ 2/6.....		2	6	
1 Shaving knife 3/ 1 froc 2/.....			5	
1 handsaw 4/ 1 Gimblet /8.....			4	8
1 Ring & Staple for Ox Yoak 2/6.....			2	6
1 Bill hook & Tackle 5/.....			5	
1 large Bell 6/ 1 small Bell 5/.....			11	
1 Sith & Tackling @ 8/.....			8	

1 Bush Sithe & Tacklin @ 4/.....		4	
1 Plow & Irons @ 24/.....	I	4	
1 Sled 9/ 1 flax Brake 6/.....		15	
1 Cart Cleve & pin at 200/.....	10		
1 Saddle 20/ 1 Bridle 6/.....	I	6	
1 poorer Saddle 10/ 1 Bridle 3/.....		13	
1 p ^r Stilyards @ 9/.....		9	
2 Trammels 10/ each & 1——@ 5/.....	I	5	
1 Shovel & tongs at 10/.....		10	
1 D ^o D ^o at 6/.....		6	
1 large p ^r handirons 12/.....		12	
1 smaller & poorer p ^r @ 10/.....		10	
1 Gridiron @ 3/.....		3	
1 frying pan @ 8/.....		8	
1 flat Iron @ 2/6 1 Iron teakettle 8/.....	10		6
1 Stew pan w ^t a Cover @ 12/.....		12	
1 large Iron pot @ 12/ 1 smaller 6/.....		18	
1 flax hetchel @ 12/.....		12	

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1 Warming pan @ 6/.....£		6	
1 Box Iron & heaters @ 6/.....		6	
5 Candlesticks at 1/ each.....		5	
1 Iron Skillet 2/6 1 lamp @ 1/6.....		4	
1 Gun 30/.....	I	10	
1 large Pistol at 6/ & holfter 3/.....		9	
1 large Brass Kettle at 80/.....	4		
1 smaller D ^o at 30/ & 1 D ^o @ 12/.....	2	2	
1 looking Glafs walnut frame 16/.....		16	
1 Statia Glafs 8/.....		8	
1 Small Glafs @ 10/.....		10	
4 large oald puter platers 5/ each.....	I		
4 platters a size lefs at 6/ each.....	I	4	
3 large puter plates @ 1/8 each.....		5	
10 plates a size lefs at 1/6 each.....		15	
7 plates older ones @ 1/3 each.....		8	9
2 Broken plates @ 1/8 each.....		1	4
1 puter tea pot @ 6/.....		6	
2 smaller D ^o @ 5/ each.....		10	
1 quart pot @ 4/ 1 pint D ^o at 2/.....		6	
2 large puter Bafons @ 2/6.....		5	
2 smaller D ^o @ 2/ each.....		4	
4 porringers & 1 small Bason @ 1/6.....	2		6

1 porringer at /10.....		10
10 mettle Tea spoons @ /2 each.....	1	8
8 puter spoons @ 3d each.....	2	
1 tin water pot 5/ tin 2 Qt mafure 2/6.....	7	6
1 tin Coffe pot 1/ funnel /9 tin Canifter 2/..	3	9
1 smaller D ^o 1/6 smaler Still @ /9.....	2	3
2 tin Sospans @ 1/ each pepper Box /8....	2	8
2 puter pans 10 knives & forks.....	11	
1 China Punch Bowl @	18	
1 earthan Bole @ 1/6 6 earthan plates at 2/ each	11	6
5 smaller D ^o @ /9 each.....	3	9
4 tea cups & 8 safsers	4	
1 Cream pot 1/3 gill Glafs.....	2	2

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1 Crmica (?) at 1/ 1 Dem John @ 8/.....£		9
5 Junk Bottles @ 1/ each.....		5
1 Cafe and 2 Bottles @ 6/.....		6
1 large Bottle @ 12/ 2 smaller D ^o 6/.....	1	4
1 old Bible @ 3/——1 salm Book @ 2/6..		5 6
1 hymn Book at 3/ Wat's Poems 1/6 Pil- grims Progrfs 2/6 Ye of a gracious spirit 3/		5 6
Christ's sermon on ye Mount 4/.....		4
the life of faith 4/.....		4
the poor man's family Book at 3/.....		3
Whitfield's sermons 2/ Salter 1/6.....		3 6
Bunnion's Works 1/6 gofpel Sonets 1/...		2 6
the new teftament 1/ Christian Mont 1/...		2
Compleat letter writer 1/6.....		1 6
English Salter /6.....		1 0
English Dictionary 2/.....		2
Dive breathings 1/ Conl. ⁿ [Collection] of Hymns 1/		2
1 Primmer /6		6
1 Cheft 8/ 1 D ^o 5/ 1 trunk 6/.....	18	
1 Black walnut Table 9/ 1 D ^o 2/6.....	11	6
2 Bufhel orchard Grafs seed 18/.....	18	
1½Bufhel hemp seed @ 18/.....	18	
3 Bushel white Beans at 12/.....	12	
2 small Chefts at 2/ 1 sugar Box 2/.....		6
1 Bufhel flax seed 6/ 6 Q st Clover seed 12/..	18	

1 Loom & tacklin @	1	10	
2 Beeds at 6/ & 2 @ /2 each.		10	
2 harneses @ 5/ Quil Wheal @ 3/.		8	
1 linen Wheel @ 18/ 1 D° 10/.	1	8	
1 Woollen Wheel at 5/.		5	
2 Hogsed Tubbs 3/ each.		6	
1 Cider Tub 10/ 1 Churn 6/.		16	
4 Barrels & 2 Cags.		9	8
2 Womens Saddles 50/ D° 30/.	4		
3 Bushels Wheat @ 4/.		12	

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12 ^{lb} flax @ /10 ^{lb} 1 Deer Skin @ 15/.	1	5	£
40 Yds too Cloth @ 2/6 p ^r Y ^d .	5		
7 Chares @ 3/ each.	1	1	
1 Great Coat 15/ 1 Clofobodied Coat 18/.	1	13	
1 fustian Coat 4/ 2 Jacketts @ 9/ each.	1	2	
1 p ^r Plush Breeches at 3/ 1 p ^r woited Stockings 9/ 1 p ^r Yarn D° @ 6/.		18	
1 p ^r Velvet Breeches @ 3/ 1 Jacket @ 2/.		5	
1 Wig @ 4/ & 2 more at 3/ each.		10	
1 Bever hat 15/ Steel Buckels 4/.		19	
1 p ^r oald Shoes @ 6/ 1 p ^r Boots 4/.		10	
1 p ^r leather Legins @ 3/.		3	
1 Bed, Bolster & pellews at 70/.	3	10	
1 D° D° D° at £5	5		
1 D° D° at 75/	3	15	
1 D° at 80/	4		
1 D° at 90/	4	10	
1 D° at 90/	4	10	
1 D° at 80/	4		
1 Bed @ 50/.	2	10	
1 D° & two pillars @ 80/.	4		
1 Bed & furniture at York Government supposed to worth	12	5	
1 D° at Newlondon Bed only.	3	15	
1 looking Glafs 10/ 1 Wollen wheal 6/.			
1 great Chare 3/ 1 Tea Table 3/.			
1 Woman's Saddle £3/5.			
8 flanel bed Blankets @ 10/ each.	4		
1 Bed Quilt 60/ 1 D° at 24/.	4	4	
1 D° @ 15/.		15	
1 Woolen Coverlid 20/ 2 D° @ 10/ each.	2		

1 Wollen & linnen D ^o @ 30/.....	1	10
1 D ^o at 18/ 1 D ^o 15/ & 1 D ^o 10/.....	2	3
2 Too D ^o at 10/ each.....	1	
1 Set flowerd curtin Vallance 15/.....		15
1 ful Set Curtins @ 24/.....	1	4
14 linnen Sheets @ 10/ each.....	7	

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14 Pillar Cafes @ 1/3 each.....£	17	6
7 Knapkins @ 1/ each.....	7	
4 table Cloaths @ 4/ each.....	16	
2 Rafors /9d each	1	6
1 Ferry Boat & Oar	9	
3 Bedsteds & Cords @ 16/ each.....	2	5
1 D ^o D ^o & D ^o @ 12/ “		12
1 D ^o D ^o & D ^o @ 7/ “		7
1 Linsy sheet at 6/.....		6

£645 5

ASA STEVENS
 DANIEL DOWNING } Aprisers under
 CHRISTOPHER AVERY } Oath

The Above & foregoing is a true record of the Inventory of the Estate of Jeremiah Roßs deceafd as exhibited by the Administratrix & recorded at large the 10th Day of July A D 1777

p^r ISAAC BALDWIN Clerk

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge then the Estate of Nath^l Johnson late of Westmoreland deceafd was finally settled by Mary Johnson an Account of her Administration was allowed & the Court ordered that all the Estate of the s^d Nath^l Johnson deceafd should be appropriated to the use of bringing up three small helpless Children, the s^d Mary consenting to the same, after the Debts & Charges are paid s^d Court holden on the 12th of July A. D. 1777—

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At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 14th Day of July 1777 present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge then the Accounts

of Esther Follet & Eliphalet Follet Administrator & Administratrix on the Estate of Benjⁿ Follet deceas'd were brought in & allowed to Esther Follet £8 9 5 & allowed to Eliphalet Follet £10 14 3 as due to them for their Trouble in settling the Estate also 18/ more to the s^d Esther Follet for her sons bringing in a waggon

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 18th Day of July 1777 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge, then the Inventory of the Estate of Howlet Hazen was exhibited to s^d Court & ordered to be recorded which is in the Words following (viz)——

An Inventory of the Estate of Howlet Hazen deceas't in the County of Westmoreland as taken the 15th Day of July A. D. 1777 & apprised by us the subscribers being sworn for y^e purpose

About 30 Acres of Land with the Buildings on the same in y ^e Def't of Wilksberry where the deceas'd last dwelt....	}	£100
About 15 Acres of Land in s ^d Deftrict being a half meadow lot bought of Hammond		
About 120 Acres of Land being ½ back lot as bought of Mr. Hammond.....	}	50
About 2 Acres 2/3 of Land being ½ of a 5 acre lot bough of M ^r Hammon.....		
1 half share in y ^e Susqu ^h purchase.....		25
1 Right in y ^e Township of Allfield.....		28
1 Yoak of Oxen		29
3 Cows at £6 each 1 Bull £4/10.....		22 10
2 Calves		2
1 horse 8 Year oald.....		25
2 breeding Sows 24/ each		2 8
16 yearling swine at 18/ each.....	}	17 2
18 smaller lot 4/ each.....		

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1 horse Waggon & tackle£8	£ 8
1 Ox Yoak & Irons at 12/.....	12
1 piece of Ox Chain 6/.....	6
2 Axes @ 6/ each.....	12
1 Sythe & tackle @ 12/.....	12

1 large Cutting knife @ 15/.....	15
2 oal hoes @ 3/ each.....	6
1 Set of Plow Irons @ 12/.....	12
1 pitchfork 6/ 1 hay rake 1/.....	7
1 Bed Bolsters & pillows under bed.....	2 15
1 D° 2 pillars @ 36/.....	1 16
1 D° under bed & 2 pillows.....	2 4
2 Wollen Ceverlids @ 30/ each.....	3
1 flannel Blanket @ 15/.....	15
3 oald D° 4/ each.....	12
6 linnen Sheets @ 20/ each 1 D° @ 6/.....	6 6
7 Pillar Cafes @ 1/ each.....	7
1 oald Bed Quilt @ 5/.....	5
1 under Bedtick @ 5/.....	5
2 oald Tabel Cloathes @ 3/ each.....	6
5 Oald Napkins @ 1/ each.....	5
1 Bedsted & Cord @ 8/.....	8
1 D° 5/	5
1 Great Coat blue broad Cloath.....	3
1 Cloas Bodied Coat blue mixt.....	1
1 Blew Jacket @ 10/.....	10
1 Brown Coat @ 6/.....	6
1 Butternut coulard Coat @ 5/.....	5
1 oal p ^r leather Breeches.....	3
1 p ^r D° velvet @ 6/.....	6
1 p ^r Yarn Stockings @ 3/.....	3
1 p ^r of Wosted D° 4/.....	4
1 p ^r Yarn D° 2/.....	2

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1 Oald hat at 6/.....£	6
1 p ^r Silver Shoe Buckels at 18/.....	18
1 p ^r of Buckels silver wash'd @ 3/.....	3
1 linnen wheel @ 18/.....	18
1 wollen wheel @ 15/.....	15
1 Chest wt Draw 8/ 1 oald Cheft @ 4/.....	12
1 oal Chare @ 1/.....	1
1 pine table @ 10/.....	10
1 p ^r Jack Boots @ 20/..... I	20
2 3 pint Basons puter @ 3/ each.....	6
2 Quart Basons @ 1/6 each.....	3
2 middle size platters @ 6/ each.....	12
2 small platters @ 2/ each.....	4

5 oald platters @ 1/ each.....		5	
2 oald pint Basons @ 1/ each.....		2	
1 pint pot @ 2/.....		2	
6 mettles spoons @ /4d each.....		2	
2 puter tea pots @ 3/ each.....		6	
1 puter Cream pot @ /6.....			6
4 silver tea spoons @ 3/ each.....	12		
1 tin Tunnel	1		6
4 tea Cups & 5 Saucers @ /2 each.....	1		6
6 puter Spoons @ /2d each.....	1		
1 tin peper Box @ /3d.....			3
1 tin Cup & two Glaís Bottles.....	3		3
1 Iron pot @ 15/.....	15		
1 D° D° @ 8/	8		
1 handle Skillet @ 7/.....	7		
1 Copper tea kettle @ 15/.....	15		
5 Braís Bowls @ 6/ each.....	1	10	
7 knives & 7 forks @ 1/ each.....		14	
1 Womans Saddle & Bridle.....	1	10	
1 D° with leather houfin & D°.....	4	16	
1 oald man's Saddle @ 5/.....		5	
2 Barrels @ 3/ 2 half Barrels @4/6 (?)...	11		

Page 23.

2 pails @ 2/ 4 Butternut Trays 1/3.....		10	
2 pine small Tubbs 2/6 1 pigin @ 2/.....		7	
1/2 Barrel tub of pine @ 1/.....		1	
1 oal Churn Tubb @ 1/6.....		1	6
40 lb of flax @ 10d.....	1	13	4
14 Bushels Wheat @ 6/.....	4	4	
5 D° of Corn @ 3/.....	0	12	
5 D° of Rye @ 3/6.....	0	17	
1 oald Saddle @ 6/.....		6	
1 Calf a Stear @ 18/.....		18	
1 p ^r Stilyards 6/ 1 pillion 9/.....		15	
1 p ^r Sheers 1/2 1 oald Tray 1/.....		2	2

£411 19 6

RICHARDSON AVERY } Apprizers
 THAD^s WILLIAMS } under Oath

Truly recorded July 17th A. D. 1777p^r ISAAC BALDWIN Clerk

At a Court of probate holden at Westmoreland in & for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the 30th Day of July 1777 Prefent Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge Adminiftration was granted unto Benjamin Hatch of Said Westmoreland on the estate of Esbon Hatch late of Westmoreland Deceafed who became Jointly and severaly bound with Parker Wilfon of s^d Westmoreland in the Penal sum of [blank] Pounds Lawfull money for the faithfull performance of s^d Truft

Page 24.

At a Court of probate holden at Westmoreland in & for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the 7th Day of August 1777 Prefent Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge Then the Last Will & Testament of Afahel Jearoms Deceafed was Exhibited to s^d Court by Sarah Jearoms wife of s^d Afahel Diceafed

& is in the following Words Viz—

I Afel Gearems in the name of God make this my last Will & Testament. I Being weak in body but of Perfect mind & memory I give & bequeth to my loving Wife Sarah Four Acres of Wheat & two acres of Oats one acre & an half of Indian Corn & one acre of Flax & one Brown mare Saddle & Bridle and one Brown & white Cow & twelve Hogs and likewise the hole of my Houfhld Furniture & about fity Wate of Flax I give & bequeath to my Eldest Son Jafen a Rifle Gun a Couple of Bull calves & one Blue coat & a pale blue Silk Camblet Jacket: I also give & bequeath to Afel my Second Son one large Coat red & white and I give to Afel & Edad my 3^d Son one Yoak of Oxen I give & bequeath to Eri my 4th Son Five Pounds that lies in a note againft the Widdow Follet & the other five Pounds to Jafen my Eldest Son I bequeath to my Daughter Sarah one Red & White yearling Heffer I bequeath to my Wife Sarah all my wages that is due to me hereto I Set my Hand & Seal this 26th Day of July 1777

Afahel Jearoms (SEAL)

In Prefents of

Azel Hyde

Stephen Harding

Recorded this 7th day of August 1777

p^r SAM'L GORDON Clerk

Page 25.

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland in & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 12th Day of August 1777 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was Exhibited an inventory of the Estate of John Baker late of Westmoreland Deceased ordered to be recorded & is in the Words following viz——

An Inventory of the Estate of John Baker Deceased of Westmoreland in the County of Litchfield in the Colony of Connecticut prized this 26th day of February 1776 by William Reynolds Thomas Sawyer & Thomas Heath

To 1 Bed & bedding	£	2	00	0
to 1 Chest		0	4	0
to 8 ^{lb} & 6 ^{oz} Old pewter at 1/6 pr lb.....		0	12	8
to 1 pewter platter		0	6	0
to 1 Frying pann		0	5	0
to 1 Iron pot		0	8	0
to 1 Iron Kettle		0	3	0
to 1 Iron Trammel		0	4	7
to 1 draught Chain		0	10	0
to 2 Chairs at 1/6 pr Chair.....		0	3	0
to 2 tubs at 1/ p ^r Tub.....		0	2	0
to 1 Candlestick				9
to 1 pair of Shears			2	0
to 1 Old Saddle			10	0
to 1 Handfaw			6	0
to 1 Hatchet			1	6
to Shoemakers pincers			2	0
to Barr Iron 8 ^{lb} at 1/4 p ^r lb.....			6	0
to 1 pair Blacksmiths pincers.....			1	7
to 1 learge Sugar box			1	6
to 2 Headstalls 2 bitts & leading lines.....			4	0
to 1 Broad how			1	6
to 1 Iron dog			1	0
to 1 Iron wedge			1	0
to an Old Ax			1	0
to an half Bufhel			1	6
to 6 Sheep at 12/ p ^r head.....		3	12	0
to a Sorrel mare		10	00	0
to a Bay mare		8	00	0
		<hr/>		
	£	31	8	1

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Brought forward	£ 31	8	1
to a Colt a year Old	4	00	0
to 1 Cow	4	10	0
to 2 year Old Heffers	4	00	0
to 5 Swine	3	15	0
to Neck Yoke & Horfe teckling.....	0	9	0
to 1 Horfe Cart	3	0	0
to 1 Blackfmiths Bellows	0	15	0
to Plow Shear & Colter	0	14	7
to 1 Blackfmiths tick iron	0	6	6
to 1 pair Blackfmiths tongs & Shovel.....		2	3
to 1 Broad Hoe		3	0
to Beatle rings & wedge		3	6
to 1 Blackfmiths Stake		14	0
to 2 Blackfmiths Hamers 2 cold Chizels & punch		6	0
to 2 Sythe nibbs		1	8
to 1 Dwelling House & a full right through plymouth in Westmoreland	100	00	0
to 1 Razer & Hone		2	0
to a woolen wheel		6	0
to a Trowel		2	6
		<hr/>	
		152	9 1

1 Note of Hand not apprizd payable by Barzilla Gurnea £ 3—3—0

Westmoreland auguft 12th 1777 then Appeared the above named Thomas Sawyer & Thomas Heath & made Oath that the Above Inventory was Taken & apprizd by them according to the then value in money & Subscribed their names thereto & the Same was ordered to be recorded as above

THOMAS SAWYER } Apprizers
THOMAS HEATH }

Truly recorded Auguft 13th 1777

Teft SAM^r GORDON Clerk

Page 27.

At a Court of Probate holden in Westmoreland in & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 13th Day of Aug 1777 Prefent Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge then was Exhibited An Inventory of the Real Estate of Capt Benjamin Follet

late of Westmoreland Deceased & Ordered to be recorded which is as follows viz—

An Inventory of the Real Estate of Benjamin Fallet late of Westmoreland in the County of Westmoreland Deceased

1 Back Lot on which Benj ⁿ Fallet lives ap- prized at	£143	00	0
1 House Lot on which Eliph: Fallet lives...	15	00	0
1 Whole propriators Right	60	00	0
1 Meddow Lott on which the Widdow lives..	160	00	0
2 Hay forks	6	00	0
1 Whole Share of the undivided Land in Kingstown		[0]	[0] [0]

At a Court of probate holden at Westmoreland in & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 13th Day of August 1777 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then Administration was Granted unto Mary Roberts & Hezekiah Roberts upon the Estate of Samuel Roberts late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a Bond of £300 Lawfull money for the performance of their Truft With Daniel Finch as Surety

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At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland Within & for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the 14th Day August 1777 Present Nathan Denison Judge Then was Administration Granted unto Mary Swift upon the Estate of Cap^t Elifha Swift late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a Bond of Five Hundred Pounds Lawfull money with Major George Dorrance as Surety for the Performance of that Truft

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 25th Day of August 1777 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was Administration Granted to Sarah Jeorams upon the Estate of Afahel Jeorams late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a Bond of Five Hundred Pounds Lawfull money with Timothy Rofs for the Performance of that truft

Same time was Exhibited an Inventory of the Eftate of Afahel Jeorams Deceased & is in the words following

A True & perfect Inventory of all the Estate of M^r Afahel Jeorams late of Westmoreland Deceased as was

Shewn to us the Subscribers being under Oath to apprise the same August 21st 1777 which is as follows

1 pair of Oxen £30	1 Cow 6£	£ 36	00	0
1 Yearling Heffer 48/	2 Calves 30/	3	18	0
flax 40/	Indian corn 60/	5	00	0
Wheat 60/	1 Iron pot 9/	3	9	0
1 pair Britches			12	0
1 Coat & Jacket		1	16	0
Cloath for a coat		1	10	0
Cloath 6/	Stockings 12/		18	0
2 pair of Shoes 36/	1 p ^r D ^o 3/	1	19	0
1 Blanket & Stockings			18	
2 Wheels 24/	20 ^{lb} flax 24/	2	8	0
				58
				8
				0

Page 29.

Brought forward	£ 58	8	0	
1 Frying pann Trammel & Tongs		18		
2 Axes 6/	Sundries	12	0	
Old pewter 6/	Beds & Beding 48/			
flour bag & meet Barrel 9/		2	17	
0			0	
1 Bible & other Books 6/			6	
			0	
2 Yards of Cloth & Snapsack 9/			9	
			0	
1 Mare 18£	13 Hoggs £7—4—0	25	4	
			0	
1 Rifle 6£	Oats 36/	7	16	
			0	
1 Saddle		1	10	
			0	
1 Note payable by the Wid: Fallot		10	00	
			0	
				£108
				00
				0

William Buck }
Parfhall Terry } Apprizers

Truely Recorded August 25th 1777

p^r Sam^l Gordon Clerk

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland in & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 17th Day of September 1777 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge. Then was Administration Granted unto Elizabeth Stark upon the Estate of James Stark Deceased Who became bound in a Bond of Five Hundred Pounds Lawfull money With William Stark as Surety for the performance of That Truft.

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within &

for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 22^d Day of Sept^r 1777 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then Administration was granted to William White of s^d Westmoreland on the Estate Isaah Paschs deceafd who became bound in a bond of two hundred pounds L. money with Thomas Sawyer for the faithful performance of his s^d Trust——

Page 30.

At a Court of probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 24th Day of Sept^r 1777 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then Administration was granted to David Bixby on the Estate of Elias Bixby late of Westmoreland deceased who became bound in a Bond of £200 L. money with Partial Terry for the faithful performance of his Trust——

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 27th Day of Sept^r 1777 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then Administration was granted to Jeremiah Durkee upon the Estate of Tho^s Durkee late of Westmoreland deceased who became bound in a Bond of £200 L. money with James Bidlack for the faithful performance of his Trust——

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge on the 8th Day of Oct^r 1777 Administration was granted to Josiah Parks on the Estate of Christopher Reynolds late of s^d Westmoreland deceased who became bound with Constant Searles in a Bond of £200 pounds for the performance of sd trust——

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 10th Day of of Oct^r A. D. 1777 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then the Inventory of the Estate of Elisha Swift was exhibited to this Court & is in the Words following (viz)

An Inventory of the Estate of Cap^t Elisha Swift late of Westmoreland deceased——

Taken by us apprizers under Oath to s^d Estate which is as followeth (viz)

320 Acres of Wild land with a small log house
 a Grist Mill & Sawmill thereon standing
 together with the appurtenances thereunto
 belonging£400

Page 31.

2 Cows £12	10 Swine £6—12—0.....	18	12
22 ^{lb} of Puter @ 2/6.....		2	15
19 ^{lb} of oald D ^o @ 1/6.....		1	18
1 Tea pot			4
1 Great Coat £1—10—1	Strait D ^o 15/.....	2	5
1 Waistcoat 4/	1 Shirt 8/	1 p ^r Stockings 1/6	13 6
2 p ^r kneebuckels 2/	1 Razor & hone 16/....		18
1 p ^r of Gloves 6/	1 oald Adds.....		11
1 p ^r Shoes 18/	1 Broad Axe 8/.....	1	6
1 Drawing knife 5/	2 oald Augers 4/.....		9
1 Handsaw 15/	1 p ^r Stilyards 9/.....	1	4
1 Steel Ring 5/	1 Hammer 1/6.....		6 6
1 Fireshovel & tongs 14/	1 oald Axe 6/....	1	
1 Warming pan 9/	one Iron Kettle 5/.....		14
1 Frying pan 6/	1 Tea Kettle 14/.....	1	
1 Iron pot 15/	2 oald pales 4/.....		19
1 Bell & Strap 12/	1 Barrel 3/.....		15
1 Wollen Wheel 8/	1 Linnen D ^o 20/.....	1	8
1 Gun 42/	1 Churn 7.....	2	9
1 Oal looking Glafs 12/	1 Ox Chain 12/....	1	4
3 Gimlets 1/4	a Chain 2/.....		3 4
1 Oald Tbb 3/	1 oald Cheft 4/.....		7
2 Oald Bedsteads 12/	sundry Books.....	2	9
1 large Bible 25/	1 Bed & furniture £5.....	6	5
other Beds & beding £7	a Dye Tubb 4/...	7	4
1 Tramel 6/	1 p ^r Betle Rings 2/.....		8
1 Hatchel 25/	1 oal Bever hat 18/.....	2	3
6 Trays 6/	1 Iron Spade 5/.....		11
1 Loom one Slay & Harnis.....		2	2

£459 3 4

as s^d Estate was shown to us by the Administratrix to s^d Estate this 9th Day of Oct^r 1777

JEDEDIAH STEVENS } Apprizers
 CONSTANT SEARLES }
 Truly recorded p^r
 ISAAC BALDWIN Clerk

Page 32.

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland on the 14th Day of Oct^r 1777 prefant Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge the Inventory of the Estate of Tho^s Durkee was Exhibited

by the Administ^r—under Oath & approved of by this Court & is in the Words following (viz)

We the Subscribers being appointed & sworn to apprise the Estate of Thomas Durke late of Westmoreland deceased do apprise the same as follows (viz)

1 Bever hat £1—4	1 oald hat 12/.....£	1	16	
1 Blue Coat £5	1 blue Jacket 30/.....	6	10	
1 Mixed colerd Coat 48/.....		2	8	
1 mixed colerd Jacket 15/	1 Cloath Coled Coat 8/	1	3	
1 oal Jacket 1/	1 Cloath colerd Jacket 8/....		9	
1 Great Coat 24/	1 p ^r of oald Breeches 6/...	1	10	
2 oald Shirts 2/	Yarn 12/		14	
1 p ^r Leggens 3/	2 p ^r Leggens 4/.....		7	
1 p ^r Blue D ^o 3/	1 p ^r Black D ^o 3/.....		6	
1 p ^r Worsted Stockings 12/	1 p ^r blue leggens 2/		14	
1 p ^r black Goves 2/	1 p ^r blue D ^o 3/.....		5	
1 p ^r white Goves 1/0	1 Rafor 1/.....		2	
Cash 40/4	1 White Shirt 6/.....	2	6	4
1 Pocket Book 1/6	1 Canteen 2/.....		3	6
1 Note of hand vs Benj ⁿ Clerk.....		3		
Wool 5/	a Note sign ^d by Abial Farnham..	25	5	
1 Note on W ^m Smith		3		
1 D ^o on Benj ⁿ Shaw.....		4		
1 Cheft 15/	1 meet Barrel 2/	1		
1 fish D ^o 3/...				
23 ^{lb} of flax 34/6	1 hoe 3/	1	19	6
1 Barrel 2/.....				
12 Bushel Indian Corn 3/	p ^r Bushel.....	1	16	
1 p ^r plow Irons W ^t 20 ¹ / ₄ ^{lb}	at 2/ per ^{lb}	2		6
1 Yoke of Cattle.....		21		
1 lot of Land in Wilkesberry N ^o 34.....		80		

161 4 10

Westmoreland Oct^r 2^d 1777

p^r ANDERSON DANA } Apprizers
 DANIEL DOWNING } under Oath

A true Record Teft

ISAAC BALDWIN Clerk

Page 33.

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge on the 22^d Day of Oct^r 1777 then Administra-

tion was granted to David Smith on the Estate of Nathan Crefmond deceased who became Bound with John Purkins of Westmoreland in a Bond of £100 L. money for the faithful performance of s^d Trust——

At the same Court holden at the same place on the 24th Day of Oct^r 1777 was allowed to the Widdow Mary Swift out of the Estate of Cap^t Elisha Swift late of Westmoreland deceased for the maintenance of two children under the age of four Years £30 L. money, it being four Shillings a Week for each whilst they shall arive to the age of four Years.

At the Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the first Monday of Dec^r 1777 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge, then the Inventory of the Estate of Nathan Cresmond deceased was exhibited to s^d Court & ordered to be recorded & is in the Words following

I Castor hat 12/	I flannel Shirt 12/	I D ^o 7/..£	I	11	0
I p ^r linnen Breeches 10/	To I Coat 24/....		I	14	
I p ^r Garters 1/	I p ^r Trousers 7/	I Jacket 12/.	I		
I p ^r Buckels 3/	I p ^r Buttons 1/.....			4	
I p ^r Mittins 5/	I p ^r of Stockings 4/.....			9	
I Raysor 2/6	I pocket Book 2/	I p ^r Shoes 7/		11	6
I Horn Comb /8d	to Cash 84/4.....		4	5	4
To Work as p ^r Ac ^t with David Smith 12/..				12	

£ 10 6 10

SAMUEL TOOZER } Apprizers
CHARLES GILLET }

A True record Teft

ISAAC BALDWIN Clerk

At the same Court was allowed for the last sicknefs funeral Charges & Doctors Bill to David Smith & for his Account in Setling the Estate of y^e s^d Nathan Cresmond £11—9—6 L. money

Page 34.

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 11th Day of Decem^r 1777 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then the Inventory of y^e Estate of Elias Bigsby deceased was exhibited by the Administrator under oath & is as follows (viz)

Westmoreland Nov^r 3 Day 1777

This Inventory contains the real and personal Estate of M^r Elias Bigsby deceas'd & as followeth

1 Town lot of Land & house on it.....	£	50	
1 Town lot of Land.....		16	
¼ of a Right in Susque ^h purchase.....		20	
2 milks Cows at £10 each.....		20	
Money five Dollars	1	10	
1 Note of Griswold 11/.....	0	5	6
1 D ^o on Kelly £2—19 in favor of M ^{ac} Kenster.	2	19	
1 Hat 18/ 1 Coat £1—10.....	2	18	
1 Great Coat 20/ 2 oald Beds 21/.....	2	1	
1 p ^r Breeches 3/ 1 Shirt 6/.....	0	9	
5 puter plates 10/ 4 Rafors 12/.....	1	2	
1 Platter 4/ 1 Tea kettle 18/.....	1	2	
1 Iron pot 12/ 1 Heter 6/.....		18	
1 Iron Tramel 10/ 1 Chair 10/.....	1		
1 Butter Tubb 2/ 2 ½ Barrel Tubbs 1 Barrel 8/		10	
1 Table 10/ 1 Bedsted 4/.....		14	
1 Feather Bed pillers & furniture.....	2	10	
1 Bed & furniture	2		
1 Hogshead Tubb 2/ 1 Bible 18/.....	1		
1 Iron Spider 8/ 2 Swine 29/ each.....	2	16	
1/3 part of ½ a share of Land in the Susque-			
hannah purchase	10		
1/3 of 1/3 of a right of Land in s ^d purchase..	7		
4 Chares at 2/ each		8	
Book Account against Obadiah Gore Ju ^r ...	1	1	
D ^o D ^o against Stodard Boan.....	1	10	

The above Articles aprised by us the Subscribers being appointed to aprize the same under oath this 3^d Day Nov^r 1777

ASA STEVENS } Aprizers
DANIEL DOWNING } under Oath

Truly Recorded

p^r ISAAC BALDWIN Clerk

Page 35.

At the Same Court the Inventory of the Estate of Christopher Reynolds decafed as aprized by us the Subtor under oath & is in the Words following (viz)

Westmoreland Oct^r 17th 1777

This Inventory contains the real & personal Estate of Christopher Reynolds decased as apprizd by us the Subscribers being sworn to appriz s^d Estate (viz)

1 Lot of Land containing about two hundred Acres or better.....	£120	
1 Iron Sledge		6
1 Hand saw		6
1 Hammer		5
1 D ^o 3/ 1 Square bettle 6/.....		9
1 Iron Tramel 10/ 1 melting ladle 3/.....		13
1 pareing Chissel 1/ 2 Iron loops 2/.....		3
2 small Books common prayer		5

STEVEN FULLER } Apprizers
ASA STEVENS }

A True record

Teff ISAAC BALDWIN Clerk

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the District of Westmoreland prefant Nathan Nathan [Sic] Denison Esq^r Judge on the 1st Day of January A. D. 1778 Then the Inventory of the Estate of Benjⁿ Hervey Ju^r was Exhibited by the Administrator under Oath & is as follows (viz)

1 Mare £10 1 Sadle £1	£	11	
1 p ^r Saddle Bags 10/ 1 oald Sword 10/ 1 laft Hat £3		4	
1 Waistroat £1—10 1 pr Shoes & Buckels 6/.	1	16	
1 Blanket & hunting Shirt 6/ 1 tow Shirt 1/..		7	
1 Powder horn & fhot Bag 6/ 1 oald hat 5/.		11	
1 Waist Coat 1/6 1 oald Blanket 2/ 1 tin funnel 1/6		5	
3 Sticks of mohare 2/3d 2 oald Razors 2/...		4	3
1 Pocket Book 2/ 1 Cheft 6/.....		8	
1 oald Cheft 3/ 7 Bushels of smutty wheat 14/		17	
120 ^{lb} of Salt pork /2d p ^r lb 2 oald Hogsheads & an oald Barrel 7/6.....		7	6
600 Acres of Land with the Buildings on it..	465		
	487	6	9

EZEKIEL PIERCE } Apprizers
ASAPH WHITTLESY } under oath

A True Record

Teff ISAAC BALDWIN Clerk

Page 36.

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 16th Day of January A. D. 1778 present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge Then the Report of the Commifsioners on the Estate of Ezekiel Hamlinton late of Westm^d deceased was exhibited to this Court and is as follows (viz)

A list of Accounts & Notes Exhibited to us the Subscribers Commifsioners on the Estate of Ezekiel Hamlinton late of Westmoreland deceased

1 Note of hand in favor of Abel Pierce signed by Uriah Stevens & Ezekiel Hamlinton payable on the 1 st of May 1777 with interest after out	£	29		
1 D ^o in favor of s ^d Pierce payable on the 1 st of may 1777 with interest after out. }		40		
To James divine on book.....	06	5	5	
	£	75	5	5

Total of what was exhibited against the above Estate on y^e 1st & last Tuesdays of Sept^r 1777

CONSTANT SEARLES } Commissioners
DATHICK HEWIT }

At the same time was allowed to the Adm^r for his Expence & Trouble in fetling s^d Estate Eleven Pounds seven shillings & two pence Lawful money

There was aded to the Inventory of s^d Estate by the Administrator£ 15 14
which made the whole of s^d Inventory.....£ 40 3

At the Same Court was set apart to the Widow of the s^d Ezekiel Hamlinton deceased for her use during her life one Bed & furniture£ 10

1 Puter Platter 6/ 6 plates 7/.....		13		
2 Puter Bafons 4/ 1 Quart 3/.....		7		
1 Tea pot 4/ Arthan Ware 5/.....		9		
1 pale 1/6d 2 Bowls 2/ 1 Tea Cettle 8/....		11	6	
1 Iron pot 10/ 1 flat 2/3.....		12	3	
1 Keeler 2/ Dye Tub & frying pan 7/.....		9		
2 Whelis 16/		16		
1 Table 3/ 3 small Baskets 5/.....		8		
			10	5 9

At the same Time the Administrator was ordered to pay to those Creditors whose Accounts the s^d Commissioners had exhibited four shillings & nine pence on the pound

Page 37.

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the District of Westmoreland on the 22^d Day of January A. D. 1778 present Nathan Dinison Esq^r Judge Then Administration was Granted to Phillip Gefs of s^d Westmoreland on the Estate of William Davison late of s^d Westmoreland deceased who became bound in a Bond of £200 L. money with John Purkins of s^d Westmoreland for the faithful performance of his Trust.—

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the District of Westmoreland on the 1st Monday of April A. D. 1778 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge, Then Administration was given to William Parks on the Estate of Jonas Parks late of Westmoreland deceased who became bound with Jonthⁿ Fitch Esq^r of s^d Westmoreland, in a Bond, of five hundred pounds Lawful money for the performance of s^d Trust.—

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the District of Westmoreland on the 16th Day of April A. D. 1778 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge, then Administration was granted to Elizabeth Depew of s^d Westmoreland, on the Estate of Nicholas Depew late of s^d Westmoreland deceased, who became Bound, with Elijah Shoemaker in a Bond of £300 L. money for the faithful performance of s^d Trust.—

At the Same Time Administration was Granted to Elizabeth Coleman on the Estate of Jeremiah Coleman late of Westmoreland deceased, who became Bound with Gilbert Denton, in a Bond of six hundred pounds L. money for the faithful performance of her Trust

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At the same Court Administration was granted to Hulda Williams on the Estate of Samuel Williams late of Westmoreland deceased who became bound with Phinehas Nash in a Bond of £500 L. money according to Law.—

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmo^d within & for the Deftrict of Westm^d on the 27th Day of April, A. D. 1778 prefant Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge, then Adminestⁿ was granted to Do^r W^m Hooker Smith on the Estate of Thom^s Newcomb late of said Westmoreland deceased, who became Bound with John Calkins in a bond of £500 L. money according to Law——

At the Same time Administration was granted to Martha Smith on the Estate of Isaac Smith late of Westmoreland deceased who became Bound in a Bond of £500 L. money for the faithful performance of s^d Trust with W^m Hooker Smith as suerty

At the same Court Administration was granted to Margeret Hemsted on the Estate of Benjⁿ Hemsted late of s^d Westmoreland deceased, who became Bound with Daniel Ingersol in a Bond of £300 L. money for the faithful performance of her Trust

At the Same Court an Inventory of the Estate of Ezbon Hatch was exhibited by the Administrator under Oath & is as follows (viz)

An Inventory of the Estate of Ezbon Hatch late of Westmoreland deceased taken & apprized by us the Subscribers under oath this 5th Day of Sept^r A. D. 1777

¼ of Proprietorship in Susquehannah	£	20
1 Cow		9
1 Heffer		3 5

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1 Calf £1—7	1 p ^r plow Irons £1—7	£	2	14
1 Chain £1—0	1 yoke Iron & Clevis 10/		1	10
1 Iron Pot 15/	1 Tea Kettle 9/		1	04
	Puter & Table furnature		2	10
1 Feather Bed			3	
1 Hors Coller				6

£ 43 9

ISAAC UNDERWOOD } Apprizers
PARKER WILSON }

The Above & foregoing is a True Record

Test

ISAAC BALDWIN Clerk

At the Same Time the Inventory of the Estate of James Stark late of Westmoreland deceased & is in the Words following (viz)

A True Inventory of the Estate that James Stark late of Westmoreland died seized off (viz)

1 Great Bible £1 4/ 1 little D ^o 5/	£	1	9	
1 Pilgrims Progreſs 3/6d 1 psalm Book 3/..			6	6
2 oald Books /6d 1 Dusory (?) Coat & Jacket		4		6
1 Cut Velvet Waistcoat		1	13	
1 White broad Cloth Coat.....		3	12	
1 other Coat		2		
1 Jacket blue Broad cloth.....			18	
1 Jacket with Sleeves		1	15	
1 thin Jacket			12	
1 Wrap Bafeal Coat		1		
1 Oald great Coat.....			9	
1 Flannel Jacket			3	
1 oal pair leather Breeches.....			2	
1 pair Linnen Trowzers			2	
1 pair Checkard			2	
1 fine Shirt		1	4	
1 Checked linnen Shirt			6	
1 oald pair Worsted Stockings.....			4	

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1 D ^o Yarn 3/6d 1 D ^o 2/ 2 D ^o 1/6d.....			7	
1 D ^o Thread			4	
1 Cravat 4/ 1 Worsted Cap /9d.....			4	9
1 Silk D ^o 6/.....			6	
1 pair Gloves 2/ 1 Bever hat 12/.....			14	
1 oald pair of Shoes			2	
1 oald pocket Book				6
1 pair of Shoe & knee Buckels Silver.....		1	4	
1 Bed & Bolfter		3		
1 pa ^r of Sheets 12/ 1 Coverlid 1/4 1 D ^o 12/.		2	8	
Sundry Beds & Beding Sheets & furni- ture for Beds.....		49	6	
3 Table Cloaths Diaper		1	1	
6 Napkins			18	
20 Yards of tow Cloath.....		3		
5 Yards & ¾ of linnen Cloath.....			19	6
40 ^{lb} of flax £1 1 looking Glaſs £1—7.....		2	7	
5 Puter Platters		1	4	

3 puter Bafons £1 & 10 puter plates 12/....	I	12	
oald Puter 12/ 15 Spoons 4/.....		16	
1 Tea pot & Canister		6	6
6 knives & 7 forks.....		2	6
2 Bowls /4[s] 2 Glafses 2/6.....		6	6
5 Tea Cups /1[s] 2 milk pots 1/6 1 Tea pot /1		3	6
2 Tea kettles 1£/2[s] 1 Brafs ladle 1/6d 1 Coffee mill	I	6	6
1 Iron Kittle /18[s] 1 Iron pot 12 1 D° 4/..	I	14	
1 D° 5/ 1 frying pan 4/.....		9	
Shovel & T°ngs 8/ 2 Tramels 11/ 2 smooth Irons	I	4	3
1 Churn 2/6 1 Dye Tubb 3/ 1 Tubb 3.....		8	6
1 Lanthorn 2/ Stone Jugg 1/.....		3	
1 Cradle 4/ 1 Coverlid for Cradle 3/.....		5	
1 Powder horn 3/ 1 Padlock 3/.....		6	
1 Bowl & Tray 2/.....		2	
1 Bread Trough 2/ two Chefts £ 1—4.....	I	6	
1 Trunk 4/ 1 Table 3/ 4 Chaires 6/		13	
1 Lock 2/ 1 Beadstead & Cord /6[s] 2 Tables 6/		14	
16 Spools 3/ 1 Bear Cask 2/6d half bushel 2/ 1 Loom £ 1—17—6 1 Reed 6/ Swifts & 2 Wheels 4/.....	2	7	6
Skern (?) & Warping Bars 6/ 1 Slay & Harnefs 12/		18	
1 Slay /6[s] one Barrel & Gum 3/.....		9	

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1 Pail & Bark & 2 Bags 3/ 1 Butter & fat T 5/		8	
4 Barrels 10/6 1 D° 2/ 1 Hogshead & firkin 6/		18	6
1 Wheal 4/ 1 little D° 12/ 1 Clofe Basket 2/ 1 Pot 1/6.....		19	6
1 Side Saddle £3 1 Sadle & Bag £1/10 7 meal bags 12/	5	2	
Horse Traces 12/ Horse Collars 12/	I	4	
Tackling for a Waggon	I	1	
Cart Clevis 5/ 1 Auger 1/6 1 Iron Dog 1/ 1 Hoe 4/ 1 fork 2/ an Iron Shovel 6/.....		7	6
1 Hoe 1/6 1 Taw 4/ a Drawing knife 3/6..		12	
		9	

1 Cutting Box 5/ 1 Cart £8.....	8	5	
1 Grindstone 1/6 2 Gimblets /10d.....		2	4
24 Sheep £7—4 48 ^{lb} of Wool £3—12—....	10	16	
13 Acres of Wheat on y ^e Ground £31—4....		31	4
7 Acres of Rye D ^o £11—11		11	11
1 Yoke Oxen 2 Chains yoke & Irons.....		13	6
1 Horse slead 15/ 1 Ax 1/ 3 Acres & ¼ of Oats £2—18—6.....	3	14	6
10 Acres of Grafs £7—10 1 p ^r Betle Rings 2/	7	12	
1 Razer & Soap 1/3d 1 Ax 6/.....		7	3
4 Cows £16 1 Heffer £3 1 Bull £1—15/....	20	15	
1 Yearling Stear £1—5 1 Yoke of Stags £4..	5	5	
3 Calves £1—16 3 plow Irons 2 plows £2—2..	3	18	
1 Horse £10 1 Mare £7 7 Swine £7—7.....	24	7	
11 Swine £19—16 8 Swine £18—4 2 Swine } £5—14 8 Do 13—4..... }	56	18	
2½ Acres of flax £1—10 200 ^{lb} of flax £5...	6	10	
1 Cheft 3/ 1 oald Barrel 1/6.....		4	6
5 Meadow Lots with the Buildings.....	560		
2 Back Lots with a Sawmil thereon.....	240		
2 other Back Lots	120		
1 other Back Lot.....	70		
1 Town Lot	20		
2 Swine	4	5	
1 Note of Hand against John Hyde.....	16		8
Cash left in the Houfe.....	25	16	

A true Inventory of the Estate that James Stark late of Westmoreland died siezed off taken by us the Subscribers under Oath April 4th A. D. 1778

DANIEL WHITNEY
DANIEL GORE

Truly Recorded

Teft ISAAC BALDWIN Clerk

Page 42.

The Inventory of the Estate of Jeremiah Coleman Ju^r late of Westmoreland deceafed as Exhibited to be recorded is in the words following (viz) May the 28th in the Year 1778

The Apprizal of Jeremiah Coleman Jun^{rs} Estate now deceafed

1 Pide Cow£ 6

1 Bed & Beding	5	5	
1 Pinch Back Watch	6		
1 wore Broad Cloth Coat.....	3		
1 Clarret Coulered Jacket.....	1		
1 Blue D ^o		9	
1 oald Broad Cloath Jacket.....		6	
1 oald Bever Hat	1	7	
1 Silver Band Buckel		6	6
1 oal p ^r Dear Skin Breeches.....		6	
1 Parsel of Boards.....	1	6	2
1 Cheft 9/ 1 Wash tubb 3/ 1 pale 1/.....		13	
1 little spinnin Whele.....		18	
2 Glafs bottles & a Salt Seller.....		3	
1 Cutlash 9/ 1 Brafs Candlestick 3/.....		12	
1 Pocket Book		2	
1 Cartridge Box belt & tomihock.....		1	6
1 oald Side Saddle	£	1	5

£ [Not totaled]

HEZEKIAH ROBERTS
his
JOSHUA B BENIT
mark

Westmoreland County May 28th A. D. 1778 then personally appeared Hezekiah Roberts & Joshua Bennet the Siners of this Inventory & have taken the Oath by Law discribed for the Apprizers of diseast persons Estates before me

ASAPH WHITTLESY Justic Peace

The Above is a true record

Teft

ISAAC BALDWIN Clerk

Page 43.

The Inventory of the Estate of Benjⁿ Hemsted late of West^d deceafed as exhibited by the Administratrix under Oath is as follows (viz)

1 pair Plow Irons	£	1	18
1 pair Wedges & Betle Rings.....		8	6
1 Hand saw		7	
1 Carpenter's Adds		5	
1 Ax 3/ 1 Olger (?) 2/ 1 p ^r Compafses 1/6.		6	6
1 Bell 4/ 1 Iron spit 1/.....		5	
1 Side Horse Chains 2/ 1 Pot 6.....		8	

1	Frying Pan 6/	1	Tea pot 4/6.....	10	6
1	p ^r Shears 2/6	1	quart pot 3/.....	5	6
	Puter	1			
1	Clavis & Pin.....			2	
4	Earthen Plates			2	
1	Cutlash			4	
1	Hat 12/	1	Bead & Beding £2—10.....	3	2
1	Table 5/	3	Wooden Dishes 5/.....	10	
1	Butter Tubb 2/6	1	Churn 2/6.....	5	
1	Pale 1/	2	oald Barrels 5/.....	6	
3	small Swine			18	
1	Broad How			5	
1	Cheft Shoe hammer & pinchers.....			2	6

£ [not totaled]

Taken May 25th 1778 by

DANIEL INGERSOLL } Apprizers
CHARLES GILLET } under Oath

Truly Recorded p^r

ISAAC BALDWIN Clerk

An Addition to the Inventory of Micah Roodes late of Westmoreland deceased dated March 25th 1778

1	Gun	£	1	10	
1	Blancet 9/	1	Jacket 6/.....	15	
1	Snapsack 1/6	1	p ^r Mittens 1/.....	2	6
1	Bullet mold 3/	1	Shirt 12/.....	15	
1	p ^r Stockings			3	

INCREFE BILLINGS
W^m STARK

Truly Recorded p^r

ISAAC BALDWIN Clerk

Pages 44 and 45 are blank.*

Page 46.

Obadiah Gore appointed Clerk 22nd Sept 1778

At a Court of Probate holden in Westmoreland within and for the Deftrict of westmoreland on the 22nd Day of Sep^t Prefent Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge Then was Administration Granted to W^m & Solomon Avery upon the Estate

*Note absence of all records, from May 28th to Sept. 22nd, 1778, covering date of Battle and Massacre of Wyoming.

of Christopher Avery Esq^r Late of Westmoreland Deceased Who became bound in a bond of one thousand Pound L. money with W^m Williams for the faithfull Performance of that Truft

At a Court of Probate held in Westmoreland within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 24th Day of Sep^r 1778 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then Adminiftration Granted to Wid^w Jane Shoemaker upon the Eftate of Elijah Shoemaker late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of £1000 Lawfull money with Daniel Shoemaker for the faithfull Performance of that Truft

At a Court of probate holden in westmoreland within and for the deftrict of westmoreland on the 2nd day of Octo^r 1778 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then Adminiftration was Granted to Phinehas Spafford upon the Eftate of Darius Spafford late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a Bond of £500 Lawfull money With Elisha Blackman for the faithfull performance of that Truft

Att a Court of Probate held in Westmoreland within and for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the 5th day of Octo^r 1778 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then Adminiftration was Granted to Asahel Buck & Widow Lucretia Buck upon the Eftate of Cap^t Aholiab Buck late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond £500 Lawfull Money with W^m Buck for the faithfull Performance of the Truft

Att a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the Deftreect of Westmoreland on the 7th day of Octo^r 1778 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was Adminiftration Granted to Wid^w Sarah Fuller upon the Eftate of Stephen Fuller late of Westmoreland Deceaf^d who became bound in a bond of £500 Lawf^l Mo with Daniel Downing for the faithfull performance of that Truft

Att the Same Court Adminiftration was Granted to Tho^s Sawyer and Sarah Rofs upon the Eftate of Perren Rofs late of Westmoreland Deceased Who became bound with Capt Simon Spaulding in a bond of Five Hundred Pound Lawfull money for the faithful Performance of that Truft

Page 47.

John Jenkins appointed Clerk Nov^r 1778

At a Court of probate holden in Westmoreland within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 21st Day of November 1778 Present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge then was administration Granted to Samuel Cochran upon the Eftate of James Cochran Late of Westmoreland Defeaf^t who became bound in a bond of five hundred pound L. Money with Phinas perce and John Jameson for the faithfull performance of that Truft

At a Court of Probate holden in Westmoreland Within and for the Def^t of Westmoreland on the 24th of November 1778 present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge then adminiftration was Granted to Widow Abigail Bidlock upon the Eftate of Cap^t James Bidlock Late of Westmoreland Defeaf^t who became bound in bond of five hundred pound L. Money with Daniel Downing for the faithfull performance of that Truft

At a Court of Probate holden in Westmoreland within and for the County of Westmoreland on the 25^{ht} Day of November 1778 present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge then adminiftration was Granted to Crocker Jones upon the Eftate of Japhat Utley Latte of Westmoreland Def^t who became bound in a bond of five hundred pound L. Money with Daniel Gore for the faithfull performance of that Truft

At a Court of probate holden in Westmoreland within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 25th Day of Novem^r 1778 present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge then adminiftration was granted to W^m Hooker Smith Upon the Eftate of Cap^t Robert Carr Late of Westmoreland Defeaf^t who became bound in a bond of five hundred pounds L. Money with Benjamin bailey for the faithfull performance of that truft

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At a Court of probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 30th Day of November 1778 Present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge then adminiftration to Nathaniel Evings upon the Eftate of Benjamin Ahfley Late of Westmoreland Defeaf^t who became bound

in a bond of three hundred pound L. Money with Stephen fuller for the faithfull performance of that trust

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the Desfrict of Westmoreland on the 27th Day of November 1778 present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge then adminiftration was Granted to Noah petteboon upon the Eftate of Noah pettebon J^r Late of Westmoreland Defeaft who became bound in a bond of Seven hundred pounds L. Money with Ezekiel Pearce for the faithfull performance of that Trust——

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the Desfrict of Westmoreland on the 14th Day of December 1778 present Nathan Denefon Esq^r Judge then adminiftration was Granted to Ifaac tripp Esq^r Upon the Eftate of Afeph Whitlefs Esq^r Late of Westmoreland Defeaft who be Came bound in a bond of five hundred pounds L. money with Jonathan Slocum for the faithfull performance of that trust

At a Court of probate holden at Westmoreland within & for the Desfrict of Westmoreland on the 28th Day of December 1778 present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge then adminiftration was Granted to Will^m Hooker Smith upon the Eftate of Edward Leftor Late of Westmoreland Defeaft who became bound in a bond of Seven hundred pounds L. Money with Benjamin Bealy for the faithfull performance of that trust

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the Desfrict of Westmoreland on the 28th Day of December 1778 present Nathan Denfon Esq^r Judge then adminiftration was Granted to Will^m hooker Smith upon the Eftate of Will^m M^cKarrican Esq^r Late of Westmored Defeft who became bound with benjamin baeley in a bond of Seven hundred pound L. Money for the faithfull performance of that trust

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At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the Desfrict of Westmoreland on the 14th Day of March 1779 present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge then adminiftration was Granted unto Jonathan Cory upon the Eftate of Jinks Cory Late of Westmoreland Defeaft who became bound in a bond of seven hundred pound L. Money

with Rofell franklin for the faithfull performance of that Truft——

At a Court of probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 31st Day of March 1779 present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge then administration was Granted to the Wid^w Marjary Smith and william Smith upon the Estate of William Late of Westmoreland Defeast who became bound in a bond of five hundred pound Lawfull Money with Jabez Sylls for the faithfull performance of the trust ——

Att a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 26th Day of April 1779 Present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge then the last Will and Testament of Peter Harris was Exhibited to said Court by the Executor mary Harris of said Westmoreland and Proved according to law by the Oaths of Manafsah Cady and Nathan Bullock witnesses to s^d will

The will is in the words following (viz)

In the Name of God Amen this 26th Day of December in the year of our lord one Thousand seven Hundred and seventy Eight

I Peter Harris of Westmoreland County in the State of Connecticut being in health and of Perfect mind and memory thanks be to [*Sic*] Given to Almity God for the same Calling to mind that it is appointed unto all men once to Die do make and Ordain this my last will and Testament

Imprimas that is to say first of all I Give and bequeath my Soul to allmighty God and my body I recomend to the Earth from whence it was taken to be buryed in a Decent Christian burial at the Defcrefion of my Executor

I do Give and bequeath to my dear and well beloved Wife Mary the Improvements of my two River lots Lying and being in Kingstown with all the Dwellings and appurtenances thereunto belonging with all my Indore and outdore Moveables Estate During her life and the movebles to her Def-pofal after her Deceafe

these two river lots I Give freely and Clearly to my well beloved Daughter Abigail Harris for her Own for Ever

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I Do Give and bequeathe to my well beloved son Seers Harris my whole Wright of land lying and being in the

township known by the name of Chillesquaqua to be his Own for Ever

I Give and bequeath to my well beloved son Elijah Harris my right of land in the township known by the name of Exeter at Wylutemon also half the Pitch Equally divided Joining him to be his Own for ever together with one houfe lot in kingtown

I Give and bequeath to my well beloved son Peter Harris one half of Quelutemon Pitch together with the wright I have already Given him to be his Own for ever

I Give and bequeath to my Daughter Lydia Shay al my undivided lands lying and being in the township of Kingstown to be her Own for ever

I Give and bequeath to my three above named Sons my Whole Proprietors Wright to be Equally Divided between them for ever to be their Own

I Do Ordain and appoint my well beloved wife mary together with my son Peter to be my sole Executors of this my last will & Testament ratify and Confirming this and no Other to be my Laft Will and Testament

PETER HARRIS (Seal)

Signed and Sealed in the Prefents of us

James Nisbitt
manassah Cady
Nathan Bullock

Truly Recorded this 18th Day of June 1779

p^r OBADIAH GORE Clerk

Att a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 1st Day of may 1779 Prefent Nathan Denison Esq^r then the Laft Will and Testament of Gad Marshall was Exhibited to said Court by the Executor mary Marshall of Westmoreland and Proved according to Law by John Heath Timothy Hopkins and John Lamphere. Witneses to Said Will and is in words following (viz)

The laft will and Testament of Gad Marshall of Westmoreland in the State of Connecticut made verbally in Prefents of Timothy Hopkins John Lampler and John Heath all of Said Westmoreland being called upon by said Martial in his laft Sicknefs as Witneses to the Difposal of his Interest said marshal being at s^d time nigh his end and not having time to write his will

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Said G^{ad} Marfhal Gave and bequeathed his Eftate Real and Perfonal in manner and form following

Imprimas I Gad Marfhal of Westmoreland Give and bequeath my houfe and houfe lot in Huntington to my Son Almerine Marfhal alfo one pair of my Silver Shoe buckels and my Silver Stock Buckel

Item I Give to my Daughter Deftmony one pair of Silver Shoe buckels

Item I Give to my wife mary marfhal all my live Stock

Item I order that the refidue of my Eftate be Defpofed of as my said wife Shall se fit for the maintenance of the family

The above is the Numpative will of the said Gad Marfhal made as his laft will and Testament

Westmoreland Nov^r 27th 1778

In Prefent off

Timothy Hopkins

John Heath

John Lampher

Truly Recorded this 18 Day of June 1779

p^r OBADIAH GORE Clerk

Att a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the Deftrict of westmoreland on the 2nd day of april 1779 Prefent Nathan Denifon Efqr Judge then Adminiftration was Granted to widow mehitabel Buck on the Eftate of Lieut Asahel Buck late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond (with W^m Hooker Smith) of one thoufand Pounds, Lawfull money for the faithfull Performance of that Truft

At a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the Deftrict of westmoreland on the 21st Day of April 1779 Prefent Nathan Denifon Efqr Judge then Adminiftration was Granted to Job Tripp on the Eftate of Ifaac Tripp Efqr Late of Westmoreland Decfd who became bound in a bond of £1000 L money with John Jenkins [*Sic*] Jun^r for the faithfull performance of that truft

OBADIAH GORE Clerk

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Att a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the first day of may 1779 Prefent Nathan Denifon Efqr Judge then admin-

istration was Granted to Benjⁿ Harvey upon the Eftate of James Parker late of Westmoreland Deceaf^d who became bound in a bond of £500 L money with Cap^t Stephn Fuller for the faithfull Performance of that trust

Att a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 23^d day of June 1779 Present Nathan Denifon Efqr Judge then Adminiftration was Granted to Wid^w Sarah Inman upon the Eftate of Elijah Inman Late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of one thoufand Pound Lawfull money with Cap^t Stephen Fuller (as surity) for the faithfull Performance of that trust

Att a Court of Probate holden att Westmoreland within and for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the 23^d day of October 1779 Present Nathan Denifon Efqr Judge then Adminiftration was Granted to Widow Margaret Henlock upon the Eftate of Jonathan Henlock Late of Westmoreland Deceaf^d who became bound in a bond with John Tilbury of Five Hundred Pounds Lawfull money as surety for the faithfull performance of that trust

Att a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the Deftrict of westmoreland on the 11th Day of Nov^r 1779 Present Nathan Denifon Efqr Judge The Inventory of the Eftate of Chris^r Avery Efqr was Exhibited by the admint^{or} under Oath and is in words following (viz)

An Inventory of the real and Personal Eftate of Christopher Avery Efqr Deceased (viz)

one meadow lot and on half in westmoreland.	£	450	0	0
Two Back lots		350	0	0
a five acre lot ^{£12} a Town lot & Corn houfe.		62	0	0
one mare and colt.....		60	0	0
one pair of oxen.....		40	0	0
one horfe		30	0	0
Two Swine		4	4	0
a Basket & 2 papers of pins.....		5	5	0
a Note of hand against Elifha Blackman...		22	10	0
a note againft Prince Alding for 50 yd of Tow cloth		2	10	0
2 notes againft Cap ^t Geer for 140 Dollars..		42	0	0
an oald Plow		1	4	0
			<hr/>	
		1069	13	0

These Certify that we the Subscribers being under oath have apprised the above articles according to our best Judgement

OBADIAH GORE }
W^m WILLIAMS } apprizers

Westmoreland 22^d Sept 1778

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Att a Court of Probate holden at westmoreland within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 15th day of Nov^r 1779 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then administration was Granted to Wid Esther Ranfom upon the Estate of Cap^t Sam^l Ranfom late of Westmoreland Deceased who become bound in a Bond with Timothy Hopkins of one Thousand Pound for the faithfull Performance of that Truft

Att a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the 20th day of Nov^r 1779 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then administration was Granted to Nathan Cary upon the Estate of Eleazer Cary late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond with Jonathan Fitch Esq^r of one thousand Pound Lawfull money for the faithfull Performance of that Truft

Att a Court of Probate holden in Westmor^d within and for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the 29th day of November 1779 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was Exhibited the Inventory of the real and Personal Estate of Eleazer Cary late of Westmoreland Deceased and Ordered to be recorded Which is as follows (viz)

one meadow lot in Wilksbarre	}	£	s	d
Containing 32 Acres.....		160	0	0
one half of a Proprietors Right in the Susq ^h	}	15	0	0
Purchase				
one p ^r of p Irons w ^t 20 ^{lb} at /10d p ^r lb.....			16	8
one Chain w ^t 10 ^{lb}			10	10
one p ^r of yoke Iron w ^t 4 ^{lb}			4	0
one bar of Iron w ^t 35 ^{lb}			11	8
one set old Cart tire.....		1	6	8
Two Yerlings Neat kine.....		2	0	0
		£180	9	10

The above Inventory is made out and computed Equal to Silver and Gold or as lawful money was in 1774

JONATHAN FITCH } apprifers
 OBADIAH GORE } under oath

Westmoreland 29th Nov^r 1779

*Truly Recorded this 30th day of Nov^r 1779

P^r
 OBADIAH GORE Clerk

*Se page 70

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Att a Court of Probate holden in Westmoreland within and for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the first day of Decem^r 1779 Present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge then ad-miniftration was Granted to Nath^{ll} Evens upon the Eftate of the widow Sarah Ashley late of Westmoreland Diceafed who became bound in a bond of Five Hundred pounds with Cap^t Stephen Fuller for the faithfull performance of that trust

Att a Court of Probate holden in Westmoreland within and for the deftrick of Westmoreland on the 15th day of Decem^r 1779 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was Exhibited the Inventory of the Eftate of Japhet Utley late of Westmoreland Deceafed and Ordered to be Recorded and is as follows

A true Inventory of the Eftate of m^r Japhet Utley De-ceafed (vis)

one Bible	£	0	6	0
one pail			9	
old Iron			1	4
one pint bason			6	0
one Cloak		1		
little kettle			6	
one small Cow		9		
one Cow		10		

21 8 4

W^m BUCK } apprifors
 LEBEUS TUBBS } under oath

Decem^r 20th 1778

An Inventory of Japhet Utleys Estate

Prifed Decem^r 30th 1778

Two Bulls	£	9	0	0
one heifer		4	10	0
		34	18	4
	SIMON SPAULDING	} aprifer		
	JOHN JENKINS	} under		
		oath		

Page 55.

Att a Court of Probate holden in Westmoreland within and for the deftrict of westmoreland on the 18th day of January 1780 present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then Administration was Granted to Nathaniel Gofs upon the Estate of Phillip Goss late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of one thousand pound Lawfull money with John Franklin Esq^r for the faithfull performance of that Trust

Att the same Court Administration was Granted to Thomas Dodson upon the Estate of Elias Bigsbee late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of five hundred pounds Lawfull money with Abel Yerington for the faithfull performance of that Trust

Att a Court of Probate holden in westmoreland within and for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the 28th day of January 1780 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Phillip Gofs late of Westmoreland Deceased and Ordered to be recorded and is as follows

AN INVENTORY of part of the Estate of Phillip Gofs of Westmoreland Deceased (viz)	£	s	d
one Grey mare	187	10	0
one Bay Colt	62	10	0
one Saddle	50	0	0
one p ^r of Saddle baggs.....	10	0	0
one Great Coat	62	10	0
Two Coats at £12—10s—Each.....	25	0	0
one brown Jackcoat £10 one blue D ^o £3—15s.	13	15	0
one Check flannel Shirt	7	10	0
one p ^r Leather Breeches	7	10	0
three p ^r Linnen breeches.....	5	0	0
Two p ^r yarn Stockings.....	10	0	0

one Linnen Shirt	7	10	0
one old black barcelonia henker ^f	1	5	0
one bagg	3	15	0
one old Coverlid	2	10	0
one old bed sack	2	10	0
one Glafs bottle		16	8
Cafh 110 Dollars	33	0	0
one Note of hand againft Phillip Gofs Junr..	27	0	0
	<hr/>		
Turn Over	519	11	8

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Phillip Gofs Inventory Continued

One Note of hand againft Dan ^l Downing....	40	10	0
one note againft Cap ^t Stephen Fuller.....	15	0	0

N B the above Inventory is made Counting

Twenty five Continental Dollars for one Silver Dollar

Westmoreland	OBADIAH GORE	} apprifer under oath
18 th Jan ^y 1780	JOHN JENKINS	

An Inventory of Phillip Gofs Eftate

one Red Cow 100

January 21 1780

N B Counting the above

Inventory Twenty five Con-	Stephen Fuller	} apprifers under oath
tinental Dollars Equal to one	Afa Chapman	
Sillver Dollar		

A True Record

OBADIAH GORE Clerk

Att the same Court was Exhibited and Inventory of the Estate of Afa Whittlesey Esq^r late of Westmoreland Deceased and Ordered to be recorded Which is as follows

An Inventory Afa Whittleseys Estate apprifed Decem^r 27th 1778

Two Yearling Stears	£	12	0	0
one Yearling heifer		6	0	0
one three year old		10	0	0
		<hr/>		

28

This appraisal was
reconed at four for one
at the time of the apprifement

SIMON SPALDING	} apprifers under Oath
JOHN JENKINS	

An Inventory of the Estate of Afaph Whittlesey Esq^r
late of Westmoreland Deceased (viz)

one Coverlid	£ 15	0	0
one D ^o	10	10	0
one blue Great Coat	13	10	0
one blue Jackcoat	4	10	0
one small puter platter & seven plates.....	4	16	0
one old p ^r p Irons an old hoe & spade.....	5	8	0
a small Tramel	2	8	0
a p ^r Tongs	3	12	0
a p ^r of flat Irons.....	2	8	0
a frying pan	3	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£ 65	2	0

apprifed June 20th 1779 at 12 for one

OBADIAH GORE } apprifers
JOHN JENKINS } under Oath

*Page 57.

An Inventory of the Estate of Afaph Whittlesey late of
Westmoreland Deceased (viz)

one Light feather bed.....	£ 33	0	0
----------------------------	------	---	---

apprifed July 9th 1779

DANIEL GORE } apprifers
JAMES FRISBEE } under Oath

*Caried to page 74

July 10th 1779 apprifed one blue coat at.....£ 11 10 0

JOHN JENKINS } apprifers
DANIEL GORE } under Oath

A True Entry

p^r me OBADIAH GORE Clerk

Att a Court of Probate holden in Westmoreland within
and for the district of Westmoreland on the fourth day of
February 1780 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge Then
was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Benjⁿ Afhley
late of Westmoreland Deceased And Ordered to be recorded
Which is as follows ———

Inventory of the Estate of Benjⁿ Afhley late of West-
moreland Deceased taken this 19th day of Dec^m 1778

	£	s	d
2 Napkins Apprifed at	0	6	0
1 p ^r fpectacles		4	0
Cafh		9	0
1 Pfalm book		8	0
1 Great Bible	1	16	0
1 p ^r of leather Breeches	4	10	0
1 Coverlid	4	16	0
1 blanket		6	0
1 Hatt		18	0
1 blanket	3	12	0
27½ Bufhels of Indian Corn at 12/ p ^r Bufhel apprifed as money pafed in 1778.....	16	10	0
	<hr/>		
	33	15	0

N B the above articles
were apprifed as money
pafed in 1774

DAVID LINDSEY } apprifers
JOEL STRONG } under Oath

An Inventory of the Eftate of Benjⁿ Afhley Deceafed late
of Weftmoreland apprifed Decem^r 13th 1779
one Right or Whole share in the

Sufqh Purchafe£ 30 0 0

Page 58.

three Quarters of a Right in the

Delaware purchafe£ 11 5 0

one right or share of land in Laceawack

purchafe 10 0 0

one Setling right of land in Delaware purchafe 5 0 0

£ 56 5 0

The above articles were apprifed
as the money was in the year 1774

DANIEL GORE } apprifers
JOEL STRONG } under Oath

A True Entry

p^r OBADIAH GORE Clerk

Att the same court was Exhibited an Inventory of the Eftate of Widow Sarah Afhley late of Weftmoreland deceafed And Ordered to be recorded Which is as follows

Inventory of the Estate of Sarah Afhley late wife of Benjamin Ashley Late of Weftmoreland Deceased Taken this 2nd day of Decem^r 1779

one Wollen shift	£	0	9	0
1 D ^o		1	4	0
1 hankerchief			12	0
1 short Gown		1	4	0
1 Long Gown		4	16	0
1 Petticoat		1	10	0
1 Whood (<i>Sic</i>) & Cap.....			9	0
8 sewing Needles			4	0
2 puter basons & Tin cup.....		1	4	0
1 Copper Teakettle		2	8	0
1 p ^r Stockings			6	0
1 Short Gown			12	0
2 petticoats		2	17	0
1 p ^r Shoes			6	0
1 Gown		2	9	0
1 blue Cloak			18	0
1 p ^r Spectacles			5	0
1 Check hankerchief			5	0
			<hr/>	
		£	21	18 0

N B the above Estate is valued
as money went in the year 1774

DAVID LINDSEY } apprifers
JOEL STRONG } under Oath

A True Entry

p^r OBADIAH GORE Clerk

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At a Court of Probate holden in Weftmoreland within and for the diftrict of weftmoreland on the 29th day of Feby 1780 prefont Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge then was Exhibited the Inventory of the Eftate of Cap^t Sam^l Ransom late of weftmoreland Deceafed and Ordered to be Recorded and is as follows,

An Inventory of part of the Eftate of Capt Samuel Ransom late of Weftmoreland Deceafed

	Equal to Silver or Gold in 1776			Counting twenty five Continental Dollars to one Silver Do		
	£	s	d	£	s	d
one brown horse at.....	8	0	0	200	0	0
2 Yearling steers	3	0	0	75	0	0
one Iron Pott		12	0	15	0	0
one Griddle		10	0	12	0	0
14 ^{lb} $\frac{1}{2}$ of old Puter		14	0	17	10	0
240 ^{lb} of old Iron.....	4	5	6	106	17	6
one old p ^r p Irons 30 ^{lb}	1	0	0	25	0	0
one Set of harrow teeth 49 ^{lb} ..	1	16	9	45	18	9
one pichfork chain & rings breast bit		9	0	11	5	0
one old hetchel		6	0	7	10	0
one old light feather bed.....	1	4	0	30	0	10
one Ditto	2	0	0	50	0	0
one old blanket		4	0	5	0	0
one pillow cafe		4	0	5	0	0
Two puter basons old.....		2	6	3	2	6
one Silver Stock buckle.....		7	6	9	7	6
one mare one Cow one heefer } one swine & 40 ^{lb} of Flax } sold & Expended.....	10	0	0	250	0	0
one Note of hand against } James Hodgkifs for 10000 } feet of pine bords.....	10	0	0	250	0	0
one note for 10000 feet of } oak bords against James } Hodgkifs	8	0	0	200	0	0
one note of hand againft Oliver Smith for £20 at.....		8	0	10	0	0
one Sadle housen 6/ one chain 4/6		10	6	12	10	0
Total	£ 53	19	9	1342	3	9

Westmoreland
Jan^y 24th 1780

JOHN FRANKLIN } apprifers
JAMES NISBITT } under Oath

Continued

An Inventory of part of the Estate of Cap^t Samuel
Ransom late of Westmoreland Deafeafed

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Lands Lying in Plymouth Deftrict
in weftmoreland

	Equal to Silver and Gold in 1776			Containing [Sic] Twenty five Conti- nental Equal to one Silver Dollar		
	£	s	d	£	s	d
one half of a whole right of land through s ^d Plymouth together with the half of a house lot over and above the half right.....	75	0	0	1875	0	0
one half of a right through s ^d Plymouth Exclusive of any part of the house lot For- merly belonging to Uriah Marvin	55	0	0	1375	0	0
one half of a Right through s ^d Plymouth Exclusive of any part of the house lot formerly belonging to Afa- hel Atherton	55	0	0	1375	0	0
one third part of a right through s ^d Plymouth Ex- clusive of any part of the house lot formerly belong- ing to John Murphey....	36	0	0	916	0	0
one _____ proprie- tors Right through the Sufquehannah Purchase..	20	0	0	500	0	0
Three Notes of hand.....	72	9	0			
	313	9	0			

Westmoreland
29th of Feby 1780

STEPHEN FULLER } apprifers
JOHN FRANKLIN } under Oath
A True Entry
Test OBADIAH GORE Clerk

At the same Court the Administratrix Exhibited an Ac-
count of Debts againft the Estate of Cap^t Sam^ll Ransom
Deceafed which she had difcharged to the amount of £147
s. 10 d. 4 In confequence of Which it is Ordered by this

Court that she have the whole of the moveables to the amount of £126 s. 2 d. 9 for the Maintenance and Support of herself and Children at her Discretion

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Att a Court of Probate holden at westmoreland within and for the district of Westmoreland march 7th 1780 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge Then was Administration Granted to the widow Hannah Gore upon the Estate of Cap^t Obadiah Gore Late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of one thousand pound with Daniel Gore for the faithfull performane of that Truft

Att the same Court administration was Granted to Abel Yarrington and the widow Keziah Gore upon the Estate of Silas Gore late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of one thousand pounds with Cap^t Stephen Fuller a surety for the faithfull performance of that Truft

Att a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the district of westmoreland 2nd of May 1780 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge Then was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate Elijah Inman Jun^r Late of Westmoreland Deceased and Ordered to be recorded which is as follows (viz)

Westmoreland Nov^r 17th 1779 An Inventory of the Estate of Elijah Inman Deceased we the subscribers being Chosen and Sworn as the law Directs Do apprise——

		s	d
Two Hundred acres of land.....	£300	0	0
one more	10	0	0
Two Sows and pigs.....	3	0	0
one pair of p Irons.....	3	18	0
one Grubing hoe		6	0
one pair of rings & wedges.....		9	0
old Iron		5	0
one womans Saddle	1	0	0
one pair p Irons & plow.....	1	5	0
one Iron Kittle		9	0
one Ditto		1	0
one pot		8	0
one hoe		4	0
one mans Saddle		18	0
one Shave		4	0

one Jackcoat 8 0
 one p^r Shoe Buckels..... I 4 0

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one p^r knee buckels 12 0

321 11 0

The above articles are apprifed at hard money Price

JABEZ SILLS } apprifers
 CALEB SPENCER }

The following Articles is of the above Eftate Lying in the Jersey and Inventoryed in Jerfey Currency (viz)

The Inventory of a Small Nursery Taken by Andrew Wilson and John Morifon 26th of Aug^t 1779

	£	s	d
at five Dollars	I	17	6
a Blacksmiths vice	I	10	0
a Table at		15	0
10 Harrow Teeth		9	9
a Neck yoke		5	0
a Half Bufhel		3	6
one Sledge		2	6
one Cow	4	0	0
one yearling Colt	3	0	0
money on Note	11	5	0

Jerfey Currency

JOHN MORIFON } apprifers
 ANDREW WILLFON }

A True Entry

OBAD^m GORE Clerk

Att a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the Deftrict of weftmoreland on the 27th day of June 1780 Prefent Nathan Denifon Efqr Judge. Then was administration Granted to Widow Sarah Durkee upon the Eftate of Cap^t Robert Durkee late of weftmoreland Deceafed who became bound in a bond of five hundred pounds Lawfull money with John Franklin Efqr for the faithfull performance of that Truft

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Att the Same Court adminiftration was Granted to Richard and Sarah Brockway upon the Eftate of Tho^s Sawyer late of Westmoreland Deceafed who became bound

in a bond of five hundred pound Lawfull money with John Franklin Esq^r for the faithfull performance of that Truft.

Att a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the deftrict of westmoreland on the 24th day of August 1780 Present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge Then was Adminiftration Granted to Phinehas Pierce upon the Eftate of Col^o George Dorrance late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of five hundred pound L M with John Jenkins for the faithfull performance of that Truft

Att a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 5th day of September 1780 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge Then was Exhibited an Inventory of the Estate of Cap^t Robert Durkee late of Westmoreland Deceased and Ordered to be recorded which is as follows (viz)

An Inventory of the Eftate of Cap^t Robert Durkee late of Westmoriland Deceased (viz)

one regimental Coat	£	0	15	0
one pair of White Drillen Breeches.....			8	0
one pair of pillow Cafes & part of Curtain..			7	0
one silver Watch		9	0	0
three Silver Spoons 15/ each.....		2	5	0
Six Silver Tea Spoons 3/6d.....		1	1	0
one puter Tea pot			3	0
one Quart & pint Cup old.....			3	6
one Tin Canester				6
one half pint Glafs			1	6
one Glafs Tumbler			1	0
one Tin Tunnel				4
Two Delf Plates			2	0
one punch bowl			2	0
1½ Doz ⁿ White Mettal Coat buttons.....			2	0
three puter plates old.....			2	0
one Copper Tea kittle.....			4	0

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Two Volumes of Berry Street sermon.....			6	0
one Church Prayer book			2	0
one brafs kettle		1	5	0
one pair of old Stilyards.....			2	0

one Iron Shovel		9	0
one Side Saddle	1	16	0
one Iron bafon		4	0
one Iron Skillet		2	6
one puter Chamber pot.....		4	0
about 100 ^{lb} of old Iron.....	1	10	0
one fire Shovel & Tongs.....		10	0
one Iron pot		10	0
one Iron Crane		8	0
one set of old Cart Tire & other Iron.....	2	2	0
one powder horn		3	0
one note of hand againft Doctr Calkins.....		10	5
one D ^o againft Thos Neil 40/.....	1	0	0
one D ^o againft Benj ⁿ Clarke 60/.....	3	0	0
one D ^o againft Simon Spalding £18.....	4	10	0
one D ^o againft Dan ^l Downing.....	6	9	0
one D ^o againft James Bidlack as Adminfr on Tho ^s Durkee Eftate £6 s4.....	3	2	0
one yearling heifer	1	0	0
one hundred Dollars Continental Currency..		15	0
one note againft Giles Slocum.....	6	0	0
one mortgage Deed from Isaac Benjami for a back lot Confideration £22 & In ^t from 1775	28	10	0
one meadow lot in Wilksbarre 36 acres.....	90	0	0
one back lot in s ^d Deftrict.....	90	0	0
one hundred acres of new land in s ^d Deftrict.	50	0	0
		<hr/>	
		309	7 9

Westmoreland

29 Aug^t 1780

JNO FRANKLIN } apprifers under Oath
 OBAD^H GORE }
 Truly recorded

Obad^h Gore Clerk

Att the same Court was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Tho^s Sawyer late of Westmoreland Deceased and Ordered to be recorded which is as follows (viz)

An Inventory of the Estate of Thomas Sawyer late of Westmoreland Deceased (viz)

one feather bed about 20 ^{lb} at 2/p ^r ^{lb}	£	2	0	0
about 35 ^{lb} of old feathers at 1/6.....		2	12	6

one old Side Sadle	15	0
one Small bible old.....	1	6
one puter Quart	3	0
three puter platter & 6 plates.....	1	0

Page 65.

five old plates & Two old Q ^t bafons.....	4	6
one Earthen platter	1	0
one puter Jill Cup.....	1	0
one Glafs Snuff bottle.....		6
one half bufhel	3	0
one Iron pot	10	0
one Iron Skillet	4	0
one Tub a pigin & Sugar box.....	4	0
two Cows	9	0 0
one Tramel	5	0
three old knives & forks.....	1	3
one old Drawing knife & hoe.....	3	0
Irons belonging to a Wagon.....	3	10 0
one old Table Cloth.....	1	6
	<hr/>	
	£ 21	0 9

Westmoreland
Aug^t 29 1780

JNO FRANKLIN } apprifers under Oath
OBAD^H GORE }
Truly Recorded

Obad^h Gore Clerk

Att the same Court was Exhibited the Inventory of the Eftate of Cap^t Obad^h Gore late of Westmoreland Deceased and Ordered to be recorded and is as follows

An Inventory of the real and personal Eftate of Capt Obadiah Gore late of Westmoreland Deafed Namely

one meadow in kingstown Deftrict No 20	} £168	0	0
Containing 48 acres at 70/ p ^r acre....			
five acres of land adjoining s ^d lot buting on	} 27	0	0
the river & was part of lot No 21....			
4 Town lots in s ^d Deftrict No 10-38-39 & 40	} 40	0	0
Containing 5 acres Each at 40/ p ^r acre.			
one back lot No 18 Containing 80 acres at 40/.	160	0	0
one undivided Right and an half in s ^d Deftrict	12	0	0

5 fourth division lots in the Deftrict of } Wilksbarre Containing 5 acres each... }	47	10	0
one Quarter of a mill seat on mill Creek } with one half set of sawmill Irons... }	9	0	0
one proprietor Right in Sufq ^h Purchase.....	20	0	0
one Grant of land by order of Sufq ^h Comp ^y } in lieu of 2 Right in Plymouth Deftrict }	30	0	0
one piece of Sole leather w ^t 5 ^{lb} at 1/6.....		7	6
one note of hand againft James Legget for } 25 Bufhels of Rye..... }	3	15	0

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one note of hand againft James Finn.....	10	12	0
one D ^o againft Capt Denifon & Sam ^l Carnmy	6	3	0
Two D ^o againft Tho ^s McCluer.....	8	18	0
one D ^o againft James Cole.....		18	3
one D ^o againft Jn ^o Blanchard.....	3	0	0
one D ^o againft Nero matefon.....	15	0	0
one D ^o againft Anning Owen.....	6	0	0
three D ^o againft Elias Church.....	8	14	0
one D ^o againft John Ansley.....	20	0	0
one D ^o againft Elihu Williams.....	3	0	0
one D ^o againft Benj ⁿ Budd.....	5	7	8
one D ^o againft Jabez Fitch.....	3	4	8
one D ^o againft Capt Parrifh.....		10	0
one D ^o againft John Ewing.....		10	0
one D ^o againft Abraham Harding.....	3	10	0
one D ^o againft Isaac Newnorman.....	12	0	0
one D ^o againft Capt Fuller for 20 sheep and 25 ^{lb} of Wool.....	6	10	0
Two D ^o againft Capt Fuller for 25 ^{lb} of wol Each	3	15	0
one D ^o againft Jonath Fitch.....	12	3	0
one D ^o againft Tho ^s Bennet.....		12	0
one harrow with 11 Teeth.....		12	10
one old plow Share.....		3	0
one old p ^r of flat Irons.....		3	0
one old Beaver hat.....		14	0
one old p ^r of plated buckles.....		3	0
Two Silver Spoon 6/ Each.....		12	0
11 veft buttons Silver.....		6	0
one p ^r of Gold Sleeve buttons.....		12	0
one puter Teapot		2	0

one puter bafon	I	3	
one old Great Coat.....	10	0	
one old Streight bodyed Coat.....	6	0	
one old linnen D ^o	6	0	
one old p ^r leather breeches.....	6	0	
4 Napkins	6	0	
5 pillow Cafes at 1/3d Each.....	6	3	
I feather bed I bolfter & I pollow.....	2	10	0
I Coverlid and I Sheet.....	1	0	0
I p ^r of hand Irons.....		8	0
I Workd pocket book		2	6
I Anvil	5	10	0
I vice	1	10	0
I Cow	4	0	0

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one heefer yearling	I	10	0
one Coat lined and Lappalled.....		12	0
one bedfthead		5	0

 £670 16 11

 Westmoreland
 Sept 1st 1780

JONATHAN FITCH	} apprifers under Oath
SIMON SPALDING	

Truly recorded p^r meObad^h Gore Clerk

Att a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 26th day of Sept 1780 Prefent Nathan Denifon Efqr Judge then was adminiftration Granted to W^m Jackson on the Eftate of Sam^l Jackson late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of Two hundred pound L M with Capt Franklin his surety for the faithfull performance of that trust

Att the same Court was Exhibited the Inventory of the Eftate of Col^o George Dorrance late of Westmoreland Deceased and ordered to be recorded and is as follows

Westmoreland aug^t 28th 1780

The following is a list of articles belonging to the Eftate of Lieut Col^o George Dorrance of Westmoreland Deceased (viz)

one meadow lot of land in the Deftrict of kingstown N ^o 24 Containing 40 acres at £3—10—0	}	£140	0	0
D ^o one N ^o 21 Containing 35 acres at £3--10--0.				
one piece of meadow in the Deftrict of ply- mouth Containing 14 acres being part of lot N ^o 10 at £4 10s.....	}	63	0	0
one back lot in the Deftrict of kingstown Containing 80 acres at 12/ p ^r acre...				
one Q ^r master Certificate Containing the sum of six hundred Continetal Dollars due to said Eftate at the value of £4— 10 L M.....	}	4	10	0
D ^o one of thirteen hundred & fifty Conti- nental Dollars at £10 2s 6d.....				

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one Stake or Smith anvil at 35/.....	1	15	0
one frying pan		2	6
one p ^r of Smith bellows.....	1	0	0
one vice	1	5	0
one Tea kettle		12	0
three puter plates		2	6
one puter bafon		2	6
one feather bed	2	0	0
one Iron Dish kettle.....		6	0

395 8 0

The foregoing Articles perfonal and real were apprifed by us at the requeft of the adminiftrator of said Eftate under oath

JONATHAN FITCH }
SIMON SPALDING } apprifers
NATHAN KINGSLEY } under oath
A True Entry p^r
Obad^h Gore Clerk

Att a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 3^d day of Octo^r 1780 Prefent Nathan Denifon Eq^r Judge Then Daniel Sherwood appeared before said Court agreeable to his bail from a Justices Court of the same date and was Examined on Oath Touching a Feather Bed which the said

Sherwood had in his possession belonging to the Estate of Cap^t Asaph Whittlesey late of Westmoreland Deceased Who acknowledged the Charge with the Circumstances attending his having it &c

It is the Opinion of the Court that the said Sherwood be accountable to Cap^t John Franklin (as admin^{tr} to said Whittleseys Estate) for the said bed and that he pay Coft Taxed at 3/

Test Obad^{her} Gore Clerk

Att a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the district of Westmoreland on the 28th day of Octo^r 1780 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge Then was administration Granted to Wid^w Isabel Wigton on the Estate of Capt James Wigton late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of 200 L. M. with m^r Jabez Sills for the faithfull performance of that Trust

Page 69.

Att a Court of Probate holden at Westmoreland within and for the District of Westmoreland on the 31st day of Octo^r 1780 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was administration Granted to Wid^w Dorcas Stewart on the Estate of L^t Lazarus Stewart late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of Two hundred pound L M. with Tim^y Hopkins for the faithfull performance of that Trust

on the first day of Nov^r was Exhibited to the same Court by the administrator the Inventory of the Estate of Cap^t James Wigton and is as follows

Westmoreland Octo^r 30th 1780 An Inventory of the Estate of Cap^t James Wigton Deceased both real and personal (viz)

one back lot of land in third Division of land in the District of Wilkesbarre in s ^d Town of Westmoreland Containing 270 acres..	£	60	0	0
Also part of meadow lott in said District Containing Twenty five acres being part of a meadow lot that belonged to Jabez Fish at £3 p ^r acre.....		75	0	0
one womas Sadle		2	0	0
one large Iron Kettle.....		1	10	0

one hack Saw	6	0
one Tramel	3	0
one Cuting knife	9	0
Ten pound of old Iron.....	3	4
one broad hoe	3	0

£139 14 4

The above Eftate was apprifed by us the subscribers
JABEZ SILLS } apprifers
JONTH^N FITCH } under Oath
 A True Entry pr
Obad^h Gore Clerk.

Page 70.

Att a Court of Probate holden in Weftmoreland within the Deftrict of Weftmoreland Nov^r 10th 1780 Prefent Nathan Denifon Eq^r Judge then was Exhibited to said Court part of the Inventory of the Eftate of Eleazer Cary late of weftmoreland Deceafed which was found by the Adminiftrator in the State of new york Which was Ordered to be recorded and is as follows

April y^e 8th day 1780

*We the subscribers have apprifed Two Cows belonging to the Eftate of Eleazer Cary Deceased

	£	s	d
one Cow at	6	8	0
one Cow at	6	8	0

The above Inventory is made out Equal to Silver or Gold as Lawfull money of Connecticut apprifed by us
RICHARD PARKS
GEORG HILL

Which is said to be according to the laws of this State
 A True Entry

Obad^h Gore Clerk

*From p. 53

Att a Court of Probate holden att Weftmoreland within and for the Deftrict of Weftmoreland Novem^r 30th 1780 Prefent Nathan Denifon Eq^r Judge then Administration was Granted to John Comftock upon the Eftate of Kingsly Comftock late of weftmoreland Deceafd who became bound with Cap^t Stephen Fuller in a bond of one hundred pounds Lawfull money for the faithful performance of that Truft

att the same Court adminiftration was Granted to James Stark upon the Eftate of wid^w Elifabeth Stark late of weftmoreland Deceased who became bound with Daniel Gore in a bond of Five hundred pounds Lawfull money for the faithfull performance of that Truft

Att a Court of Probate holden at Weftmoreland within and for the Destrict of Weftmoreland on the 2nd day of Decem^r 1780 prefent Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was Exhibited the Inventory of the Eftate of Wid^w Elifabeth Stark late of Weftmoreland Deceased which was Ordered to be recorded and is in the words following (viz)*

*Caried to page 74

A True Inventory of the Eftate that Wid^w Elifabeth Stark late of Weftmoreland Dec'd Seized of (viz)

Page 71.

5 meadow Lotts	500	0	0
2 Back Lotts with sawmill thereon.....	220	0	0
2 Other back lotts.....	120	0	0
1 other back lot.....	70	0	0
1 Town Lott	20	0	0
1 Town Lott	3	0	0
1 Cart	8	0	0
1 Iron kettle 18/ 1 Iron pot 8/.....	1	6	0
a book Debt againft Cap ^t Dan ^l Rofecrantz...	4	10	0
1 Beaver hat		12	0
1 Prife bill for Continent Pafture.....	15	0	0
a Piece of Full ^d Cloth 13 y ^{ds} at 6/ p ^r y ^d	3	18	0
2 Pair of Plow Irons.....		18	0
1 frying Pan		4	0
3 Sickels		3	0

967 11 0

Westmoreland
2nd Decem 1780

STEPHEN FULLER } apprifers
DANIEL GORE } under Oath

Att a Court of Probate holden at weftmoreland within and for the Destrict of weftmoreland Decem^r 5th 1780 Prefent Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge there was Exhibited to the Court the by the Adminiftratrix the Inventory of the Estate of Cap^t James Bidlack Jun^r late of Weftmoreland

Deceased and Ordered to be recorded which is in the words following

An Inventory of the Estate of Cap^t James Bidlack Jun^r of Westmoreland Deceased (viz)

one feather bed & one pillow & bolfter.....	3	13	0
one wollen Coverlid		16	0
one wollen Coverlid		10	0
one Tow Coverlid		10	0
one Bedtick old		6	0
one old wollen Sheet.....		2	0
one old linnen Sheet		8	0
three pillow Cases old.....		3	6
three Table Cloths.....		14	0
1 p ^r of leather breeches.....		18	0
one Linnen Coat old.....		3	6
one old linnen Shirt.....		5	0
one old beaver hat.....		6	0
one Small Trunk		4	0
one old Sword		4	0
one large Iron pott one small D ^o		15	0
2 puter platters 7 plates one small bafon....		18	0
1 Black Tin Teapot		2	3
one Looking Glafs		4	6
Page 72.			
one Spining Wheel 10/ one pail 1/.....		11	0
1 Cooper Ax & 2 Crooked Shaves burnt.....		8	0
one Glafs bottle & one Candlestick.....		3	0

Apprifed	12	3	9
Octo 29 1780			

JOHN FRANKLIN } apprifers
 LEMUEL WHITMAN } under Oath
 Truly Recorded Pr
 Obad^h Gore Clerk

Att a Court of probate holden within and for the Destrict of Westmoreland on the 14th day of March 1781 Present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge then was administration Granted to Widow Abigail Weeks on the Estate of Phillip Weeks Late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of one hundred pounds Lawfull money with Jonathan Fitch Esq^r for the faithfull performance of that trust

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 16th day of march 1781 Present Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge Then was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Phillip Weeks by the adminiftratrix and Ordered to be recorded and is as follows (viz)

An Inventory of the real and personal Estate of M^r Phillip Weeks late of Westmoreland Deceased (viz)

	s	d
one meadow Lott	£120	0 0
one back Lott	50	0 0
half Proprietor Right	12	0 0
one fifty acre Lott in Newport Deftrict.....	15	0 0
Cafh	5	0 0
one Cow	5	0 0
*five Bufhel of Rye.....		15 0
	<hr/>	
	£207	15 0

Westmoreland
16th march 1781

WM WILLIAMS } apprifrer
DANIEL GORE } under Oath
A True Entry Obadh Gore

*Caried to Page 88

Page 73.

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 21st day of march 1781 Prefent Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was Administration Granted to Wid^w Sarah Upson upon the Estate of Asa Upson Late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of one hundred pounds Lawfull money with Uriah Stevens for the faithfull Discharge of that Truft

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the 3^d of April 1781 Prefent Nathan Denifon Esq^r Judge then was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Lieut^t Lazarus Stewart Late of Westmoreland Deceased and Ordered to be recorded which is as follows

An Inventory of the Estate of Lieut Lazarus Stewart of Westmoreland Deceased (viz)

Two Lotts of land in Hanover Deftrict } Containing about 400 acres..... }	£500	0 0
Three old Wagon Wheels one Iron Exeltree	2	0 0
16 ^{lb} of old Iron		5 4

one Beaver hat	1	8	0
one small Iron pot & small looking glafs.....		2	6
Two pich forks		2	6
one Woolen Blanket		12	0
one Linnen Sheet		10	0
one note of hand againft W ^m Hibbart.....	10	0	0
Book account Due from the Eftate of Elijah } Inman Deceafed		12	0
		<hr/>	
		£515	12 4

Aprifed Nov^r 25th 1780 by us

JOHN FRANKLIN } apprifery
JONATHAN FITCH } under Oath

A true Entry

Obad^h Gore Clerk

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the Deftrict of Weftmoreland on the 10th day of April 1781 Prefent Nathan Denifon Efqr Judge then was adminiftration Granted to Gideon church on The Eftate of Nath^l Church late of Weftmoreland Deceafed who became bound in a bond of Fifty pound L. M With Nath^l Williams for the faithful performance of that Truft

Page 74.

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the Deftrict of Weftmoreland on the 17th day of Auguft 1781 Prefent Nathan Denifon Efqr Judge Then was adminiftration Granted to Daniel Gore on the Estate of Nero Matifon who became bound in a bond of three Hundred pounds Lawfull money with W^m Jackson for the faithfull performance of that Truft

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the Deftrict of Weftmoreland April 1781 Prefent Nathan Denifon Efqr Judge Then was Exhibited part of the Inventory of the Estate of Wid^w Elizabeth Stark late of Weftmoreland Deceafed and Ordered to be Recorded and is as follows (viz)

Thefe may Certify that we the Subscribers were Defired by James Stark to apprize 1 p^r of Oxen 1 p^r Silver Shoe Buckels & 1 powder horn which belonged to the Estate of

his mother Elizabeth Stark Deceased late of Westmoreland which we Did and is as follows s d

The Oxen we apprifed to be worth in hard money	£ 14	0	0
The Shoe Buckels.....	0	16	0
The powder horn.....		4	0

New York Currency 15 0 0

Duchefs County State
of New york Paulings
Precinct Decm^r 30th 1780

NATHAN PEARCE
NATHAN PEARCE Jun^r

The above Named Nathan Pearce and Nathan Pearce Jun^r personally Appeared before me and made Oath that the above apprizement was according to the best of their Judgemen*

WILLIAM PEARCE Justice of peace

* from page 71

Att the same Court was Exhibited the Inventory of part of the Estate of Cap^t Afaph Whitlesey which was Ordered to be Recorded & is as follows (viz)

An Inventory of part of the Estate of Afaph Whitlesey Esq^r late of Westmoreland Deceased (viz)*
 one Right of land in Plymouth Deftrict in } £140 0 0
 Westmoreland at }
 Aprifed April 4th 1781

* from page 56 & 57

PHINEHAS NAFH } aprisers
JAMES NESBITT } under oath

Page 75.

Att a Court of Probate holden within for [*Sic*] the deftrict of Westmoreland on the 5th day of Sep^t 1781 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was administration Granted to William Heberd on the Estate of Cyprian Hebert late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a Bond of three Hundred pound Lawfull money with Caleb Spencer for the faithfull performance of that Truft

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the Twenty forth 24 day of Decem^r

1781 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Cyprian Heberd Late of Westmoreland Deceased Ordered to be recorded and is as follows

Westmoreland Nov^r the 15th 1781 An Inventory of Cyprian Heberts Estate Late Deceased

the Prefal of Land	£	s	d
one Lot 58 acres N ^o 25.....	43	10	0
one lott 58 acres N ^o 18.....	29	0	0
one half lott 29 acres N ^o 17.....	29	0	0
one lott 58 acres N ^o 10.....	29	0	0
three acres of land.....	1	10	0
fifty three apple trees at /6d p ^r tree.....	1	6	6
one horse	9	0	0
one Table	0	4	0
one Linnen Wheel	0	8	0
one Womans Sadle	1	10	0
one Cheft	0	6	0
7 ^{lb} of Pewtor	0	7	0
one Cart	4	6	0
one frow (?)	0	2	0
one Drawing knife	0	4	0
one P Share	0	8	0
one Tramel	0	4	0
one Great Wheel	0	2	0
one Churn	0	2	0
four hundred feet of board.....	0	14	0
one Note of hand against E Spencer.....	50	0	0
one Note of hand against E Spencer.....	40	0	0
one Note of hand against W ^m Heberd.....	40	0	0
one Note of hand against Gid ⁿ Burret.....	7	0	0
one Note of hand against Jere ^h Rofs.....	7	9	0
one mare Entered by Special Order of Court at	4	10	0
	<hr/>		
	300	3	6

ADAM MAN }
NATHAN CARY } apprifer under Oath
A True Entry

OBAD^h GORE Clerk

Page 76.

Att the same Court was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Edward Lefter late of Westmoreland Deceased and Ordered to be recorded as follows

Inventory of the Estate of Edward Lefter late of Westmoreland Decafed is as follows

one Right of land in the Distric of New- port Containing about 300 acres.....	} £			
		100	0	0
8 Bushel of Ryie at 3/6 p Bush.....		1	8	0
Westmoreland		101	8	0
Decem ^r 18 th 1781				
	p ^r us JONATHAN CORY			} apprifers
	ROSEL FRANKLIN			} under oath

Addition of the Said Lefter Estate (viz)

one young Ox	£	3	10	0
one Cow		2	10	0
Ten Bushel of Wheat at 4/ p B.....		2	0	0
one Cow		1	4	0
Two heifers		2	8	0
Book Acc ^t against Doct ^r Smith.....		1	3	0
				[not totaled]

Westmoreland
Decem^r 18 1781

apprised p^r us W^m WARNER } apprifers
STEPHEN FULLER } under oath

Att the same Court was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Noah Pettibone late of Westmoreland Deceased* Ordered to be recorded and is as follows

Westmoreland Decem^r 24th 1781

We the Subscribers being Called upon by Mr Noah Pettibone adminiftrator on the Estate of M^r Noah Pettibone Deceased to apprise the Estate of the S^d Deceased have Proceeded as followeth (viz)

A Right of land in Plymouth Township Exclusive of What the S ^d Deceased Sold to Gaylor & Gurney S ^d Right of land at	} £200	0	0
one pr of old p Irons		9	0
		200	9 0

*Page 48

PRINCE ALDING } apprifers
JOHN COMITOCK } under oath

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Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the 1st day of January 1782 Prefent Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was Exhibited to the Court the Inventory of Cap^t Rob^t Karr late of Westmoreland Deceased Which is as follows (viz)

An Inventory the Goods and Chattels of Rob^t Karr Deceased Taken by Lieu^t W^m Buck & Isaac Underwood apprifers being properly Qualified thereto by Oath as the Law Directs Dated this 14th day of Decem^r 1779

	£	s	d
one Black horfe	39	0	0
one Sword	9	0	0
1½ Bufhel of Country made Salt.....	15	15	0
10 ^{lb} of flax	1	10	0
	<hr/>		
	65	5	0
Allowed by the Court in Good money Equal to..	9	12	0

Debts Exhibited and Allowed by the Court of Probate againft Cap^t Carr is as follows (viz)

	£	s	d
Doct ^r Smith accompt	1	6	6
John O Neil D ^o		10	0
Benj ⁿ Cole & Cufar	6	6	8
Obad ^h Gore		7	0
	<hr/>		
	£	8	10
			2

Att the same Court was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Stephen Fuller late of Westmoreland Deceased which is as follows

An Inventory of the Estate Stephen Fuller Jun^r of Westmoreland Deceased (viz)

	£	s	d
one Right of land in Kingstown Deftrict in Westmoreland	} 200	0	0
one Cow			
Two old Chefts		12	0
one Stand		6	0
three Keelers		6	0
one half Bufhel		3	0

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one Churn & 2 Small tubbs	6	0
one bedstead & Cord	10	0
Seven puter plates	10	6
one Wolen Wheel	6	0
one Weavers Loom	1	4
	<hr/>	
	£208	13 6

Westmoreland
Jan^y 1st 1782ABEL YERINGTON } apprifir
JOB TRIPP } under Oath

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 15th day of Nov^r 1781 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was administration Granted to John Blancher of Westmoreland on the Estate Joseph Blancher late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of £200 L M with Stephen Fuller for the faithful performance of that Truft

Att a court of Probate holden within and for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the 6th day of Decem^r 1781 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then Was administration Granted to the Wid^w Hannah Peirce on the Estate of Timothy Peirce late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a Bond of £100 L M with Cap^t Simon Spalding for the faithfull performance of that Truft

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 30th of march 1782 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was administration Granted to John Franklin Esq^r on the Estate of Elifha Richards late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a Bond of £200 L M with Cap^t James Bidlack for the faithfull Performance of that Truft

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 1st day of April 1782 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was administration Granted Wid^w Mehitabel Bickford on the Estate of Jeremiah Bickford late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of £40 L M with Edward Spencer for the faithfull performance of that Truft

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Att the same Court Administration was Granted to Elisha Mathewson on the Estate of Winchester Matthewson late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of £200 L M with Daniel Gore for the faithfull performance of that Truft

Att the same time the Court allowed to the Wid^w Sarah Heberd the sum of Twenty six pounds Lawfull money out of the Estate of Cyprian Heberd late of Westmoreland Deceased for her Expense and Trouble in bringing up the Child since the said Heberds Deceafe until its arival to the age of ^{four} years*

*Sarah Heberd

Att the same Court was Exhibited the Laft will and Testament of John Hurlbutt Esq^r by the Executors Christopher and John Hurlbut which was approved by Said Judge and Ordered to be recorded and is in the words following

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN I John Hurlbutt of Westmoreland in the County of Westmoreland and State of Connecticut being Weak in body but of sound Memory Thanks be Given to God. therefore Calling to mind the Mortality of my body and Confidering that it is appointed for all men once to die Do make and Ordain this to be my laft Will and Testament That is to say Principally & first of all I Give and Bequeath my Soul to God that Gave it, Trusting in the Mercy of God through the Merits of Jesus Christ for the Salvation thereof and my body to the duft to be buried in decent Christian burial at the Discretion of my Executors and as Touching Such Worldly Estate as it hath Pleafed God to blefs me with in this life, I Give & Dispose of the same in the following Manner and form after my Just Debts and funeral Expenses are Paid and satisfied

ITEM I Give and Bequeath to my loving wife Abigail Hurlbutt the one third part of my Personal Estate forever also the ufe of all the remaining Two thirds of said perfonal Estate During the time she shall continue my

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my Widow Except my Wearing apparel Also I Give and bequeath to my said Wife my riding sadle and bridle forever

ITEM I Give and Demife to my son Christopher Hurl-

butt my half Proprietors Right in the Susquehannah Purchase to him my son Christopher Hurlbutt and his heirs and assigns forever. Also the one third part of my farm which I bought of John Holenback Lying in the Deftrict of Hanover to him and his heirs forever. he my said son paying such Legacies as are herein after mentioned——

ITEM I Give and Demife to my son John Hurlbutt Jun^r Another third part of my said farm last above mentioned to him my son John Hurlbutt Jun^r and his heirs and assigns forever he paying Such Legacies as are herein after mentioned

ITEM I Give and Demife to my son Naphtali Hurlbut the remaining third part of my s^d Farm to him and his heirs and assigns forever he paying Such Legacies as are hereinafter mentioned

ITEM I Give and bequeath to my Daughter Anna Hurlbutt fifty pounds Lawfull money to be paid at the time of her Mariage by my son Christopher Hurlbutt

ITEM I Give and bequeath to my Daughter Catherine Hurlbutt fifty Pounds Lawfull Money to be paid her at the time of her Mariage by my son John Hurlbutt

ITEM I Give and bequeath to my Daughter Lydia Hurlbutt fifty pounds Lawfull money to be paid to her at the time of her Mariage by my son Naphtali Hurlbutt

ITEM I Give and bequeath to my sons Christopher John and Naphtali all my Wearing apparel to be Equally Divided between them also two Thirds of my Personal Estate at the Death or Entermariage of my said Wife to be Equally Divided between my said sons

ITEM I Give Demife and Bequeath unto my three sons and three daughters Aforesaid All my lands Tenements and Estate of all kind not heretofore Disposed off to be Equally Divided between my s^d sons and Daughters

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after my Deceafe to them and their heirs forever

LASTLY I do hereby Nominate and appoint my sons Christopher Hurlbutt and John Hurlbutt Jun^r to be my Executors to this my last Will and Testament and I do hereby Impower and Authorife my said Executors to recover all debts due to me and the money to dispose of and Improve for the paying my Debts and Legacies above mentioned

In Witnefs Whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and Seal this 16th day of January A D 1782

Signed Sealed Published and Delivered
by the said John Hurlbutt to be his Laft
Will & Teftament In Prefent of

Jacob Johnfon
Adam Man
Janey Man

JN^o. HURLBUT (his seal)

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the deftrict of Weftmoreland June 5th 1781 Prefent Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge Then was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Afa Upson late of Weftmoreland Deceased and is as follows (viz)

An Inventory of the Estate of Afa Upson late of Weftmoreland Deceased

	£	s	d
one yoke of Oxen	14	0	0
Two Black White faced Cows.....	8	0	0
Two Cows one Brown the other black.....	9	0	0
one mare and Colt	8	0	0
one Two year old mare.....	7	0	0
one Yearling Colt	1	15	0
Eight Sheep	4	16	0
one large sow	0	18	0
four pillow Cafes	0	8	0
Two shirts	0	9	0
one Coat and Jacket	3	0	0
one p ^r Buckskin Breeches	0	18	0
one Linfey Woolsey Coat	0	7	0
three p ^r Stockings	0	8	0
one Jacket	0	5	0
Two p ^r Buckels	0	3	0

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	£	s	d
Two Table Cloths & four Towels.....	0	12	0
one Set of Curtains	0	14	0
three p ^r Sheets	0	16	0
one p ^r overhalls	0	5	0
Ten yards of Tow Cloth	1	0	0
one bed and furniture	8	0	0
one bed & furniture	4	0	0

one blanket	0	5	0
fourteen pounds of Puter	1	8	0
one Tramel & Tongs	0	9	0
one Chain & yoke Irons	0	9	0
one Plow Share	0	4	0
Two Potts	0	16	0
Two files Two Chiffels & hammer.....	0	5	0
one Bell	0	3	0
one Note	0	3	0
one Buckskin	0	12	0
one hat	0	4	0
		<hr/>	
		70	12 0

Westmoreland march 26th 1781

JOHN COMSTOCK } apprifers
JAMES ATHERTON } under Oath

UPON THE REQUEST OF M^{RS}

Sarah Bennet late Wid^w of Afa Upson for her thirds & Ordered by said Court that her thirds be set of to her Which amounts to £26—s. 14—d. 8 L M the remainder of said Estate to be referved for the use of the Creditors & heirs by the Confesion of the Administratrix and her husband Solomon Bennet

A True Entry

OBAD^H GORE Clerk

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland April 8th 1782 Prefent Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge Adminiftration was Granted to Timothy Hopkins upon the Estate of Timothy Hopkins late of Westmoreland Deceafed Who became bound in a Bond of Two hundred pound L M with John Franklin Esq^r for the faithfull performance of that Truft

Att the same Court Adminiftration was Granted to Timothy Hopkins on the Estate of David Marvin late of Westmoreland Deceafed who became bound in a bond of one hundred pound L M with John Franklin Esq^r for the faithfull performance of that Truft

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Att the same Court adminiftration was Granted to Timothy Hopkins upon the Estate of mathew Marvin late of Westmoreland Deceafed who became bound in a bond of

fifty pound Lawful money with John Franklin Esq^r for the faithfull performance of that Truft—

Att the same Court was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Jeremiah Bickford late of Westmoreland Deceased which was Ordered to be recorded and is as follows

Westmoreland April 4th day 1782 We the Subscribers have apprifed the Estate of Jermiah Bickford Deceased according to the best of our Judgment

	£	s	d
one Table	0	10	0
one Table	0	8	0
one Cubbard	0	18	0
one p ^r Cart Wheels	4	0	0
one Box Iron & Taylors Goofe.....	0	12	0
one Kettle & Tubb.....	0	6	0
one p ^r Shears	0	2	0
one half of Proprietors Right.....	18	0	0
one Cow added by Order of the Court being } sold out of the State..... }	3	16	9
one Cow under the like Circumstances Sold } out of the State..... }	3	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£	31	12 9

NATHAN CARY } apprifers
RICHth INMAN } under Oath

Att the same Court was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Winchefter Mathewson late of Westmoreland Deceased and ordered to be recorded and is as follows

A True Inventory of the Estate of Winchefter Mathewson late of Westmoreland Deceased

one Right of land through the Destrict of } Kingston	£200	0	0
one Brais Kettle	3	0	0
Two Iron Shovels 10/ 1 Drawing knife 5/...	0	15	0
2 Tramels with one Rod 8/ one Tea kettle 5/	0	13	0
Shear & Cotter 8/ one ox Chain 15/.....	1	3	0
2 Cow bars 18/ 2 old axes & 1 box iron 4/..	1	2	0
1 blacksmith state	1	8	0
4 platters 6 plates 2 poringers 2 bafons 1Q ^t } pot 2 spoons old puter..... }	0	18	0
2 hand saws 21/ one Cheft 4/.....	1	5	0

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one bedstead 6/	one Iron pot 8/.....	£	0	14	0
one Loom			1	0	0
one cart			4	0	0
1 p ^r of blacksmith bellows sold for 150 } Cont ^d Dollars Decem ^r 1779..... }			1	16	0
			<hr/>		
			217	14	0

JOHN FRANKLIN } apprifers
HUGH FORSMAN } under Oath

Westmoreland April 2^d 1782

Att the same Court was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Isaac Tripp Esq^r Which was Ordered to be recorded and is as follows (viz)

An Inventory of Isaac Tripps Esq^r Estate Apprifed by us the Subscribers Westmoreland March 23^d 1782

957 Acres of land lying in the district of Providence at 20/ p ^r acre.....	}	£957	0	0	
1209½ Continental Dollars.....					60	0	0
one Note againft Noah Adams for £9 L M payable Decem ^r 1778.....	}	1	16	0	
one Note againft W ^m Gallup for fifteen Spanefh Mill ^d Dollars payable August 1773 with In ^t on the Note.....					5	13	8
one Note of hand on Jonathan Hafcall payable y ^e 22 ^d Aug ^t 73 for £10—4—0 on Interest	}	16	4	0	
one Note on Sam ^l Millard for £14—12 payable July 1778					4	18	0
one Note on Afaph Whittlesey for 23½ Bushel of Rie	}	3	6	8	
Two Ox Chains at					15	0
			<hr/>		
			1049	13	4

Apprifed p^r us

W^m WILLIAMS } apprifers under
JN^o JENKINS Ju^r } oath

Page 85.

Att A Court of Probate holden within And the destrift of Westmoreland on the 15th day of April 1782 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of John Hurlbutt Esq^r late of Westmoreland Deceased which was Ordered to be recorded and is as follows (vz)

An Inventory of the Real and Personal Estate of John Hurlbutt Esq^r late of Westmoreland Deceased (viz)

Two Rights of land in the Destrict of Han- over Containing about 800 at /15s/ p ^r	}	£			
acre			600	0	0
one Right of land in Huntington in Dela- ware purchase	}		20	0	0
one half Right in the Second Delaware pur- chase also the half of a Right in The Township of Parkbury.....		}		20	0	0
A part of half Right of land in Delaware first purchase Obtained from Dan ^{ll} Skinner of N York state.....	}			15	0	0
one half Proprietors Right in the Sufq ^h Purchase		}		20	0
one Great Bible				1	6	0
Salmons Geography 10/ Bailey Dict ^y 12/....			1	2	0
Psalm book 3/ Law book 22/ & other books 6/			1	11	0
one Note of hand againft Uriah Chapman } 27/ on Int ^t dated march 1774..... }	}		2	0	0
one note of hand againft Jn ^o Jamefon remain due				3	12	0
one not [<i>Sic</i>] of hand againft Lem ^{ll} Whit- man for 108 Contin ^{ll} Dollars dated 1781	}		0	9	0
an afsignment of a note from Deliverance Adams againft Afa Chapman..... }		}		9	0	0
one Treafurers Note for £9—8.....				9	8	0
an Order on the County Treafury.....			7	5	7
one Pocket book 2/ 4 Silver Table Spoons } & 6 Silver Tea Spoons 60/..... }	}		3	2	0

one Warming pan 15/ Two linnen wheels } 20/ 17lb of puter 25/6.....	3	0	6
one Tea pot 5/ Earthen 3/ a foot Glafs 1/6 } a Tin Gallon meafure 1/6.....	0	11	0
a Hetchel 9/ Two Iron Bafons 6/ 2 Flat } Irons 5/ box Iron 4/.....	1	4	0
one Iron pot 18/ Iron kittle 6/ Iron Tea } kettle 7/ Iron Kittle 6/.....	1	17	0
one Iron pot 8/ one pot broken 6/ frying } pan 5/ Iron Spit 1/6.....	1	0	6

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one GridIron 1/6 Shovel & Tongs 9/ Two } Tramels 12/ p ^r of Hand Irons.....	1	14	6
one p ^r Stilyards 4/ three Candlesticks 1/6 } one p ^r Sheep Shears.....	0	7	0
7 knives & 8 forks 6/ one brafs kittle 20/ } a Broad & Narrow ax 12/.....	1	18	0
3 Iron wedges & 1 Betle Ring 6/ an old } ax and billhook 4/.....	0	10	0
one Sive 2/ Two sickel 2/ p ^r Cards 3/ } one Rafor 1/6 1 p ^r shears /6.....	0	9	0
four weavers Reeds 26/8 4 boxes 6/ To- } bacco box 1/ wooden ware.....	3	18	10
one Comb 3/ one Tin pail & 2 Tin pans } 2/6 one Chain 11/ one Yoke & Irons } 6/	1	2	6
one Cart 80/ one old p ^r Wheels 48/ one } plow 40/ one p ^r p Irons 18/ one p ^r } yoke Irons	9	9	0
one bed and furniture £9 .9 one Coverlid } & pillows 24/	10	13	0
27 sheets £15—12/ 3 flannel Blankets 45/ } fifteen Napkins 43/	20	0	0
7 pillow Cafes 17/6 three Table Cloths 30/ } six Napkins 17/ Two Table Cloths 18/ }	4	2	6
Two Sheets 25/ Two suits of Curtains 50/ } 18 yds of Curtain Callico 90/.....	8	5	0
Two old Coverlids 16/ one Coverlid 20/ } four beds & furniture £24—14.....	26	10	0

one bed £4 Two Chefts 30/ looking Glafs } 48/ Map of Connecticut 1/..... }	7	19	0
five Shirts 42/ five stocks 9/ Two p ^r of linnen Breeches 8/ Two Great Coats } 72/	6	11	0
one linnen Coat & Jacket 7/ one serge Coat } 36/ velvet Jacket 16/..... }	2	13	0
Blue Coat & Jacket 40/ Two p ^r leather Breeches 28/ Two flannel shirts 6/.. }	3	14	0
three p ^r of linnen Stockings 7/ 6 p ^r mittins } 2/6 four p ^r of old Stockings 6/..... }	0	16	0
five p ^r of Stockings 32/ three Silver Shoe buckles a stock buckle & p ^r buttons } 30/	3	2	0
one p ^r Boots 27/ p ^r shoes 6/ one Cow hide } 12/ old beaver hat 12/..... }	2	17	0
Two Cleves & pins 4/6 Two hammers & pinchers 4/ old frying pan /9..... }	0	9	3
p ^r silver knee buckels 6/ p ^r spectocles 8/ p ^r linnen Gloves 2/..... }	0	16	0
one lanthon 6/ one Cag 2/6 one mans Saddle 24/ one leather horfe collar } 3/	1	15	6
old Grubing hoe 1/6 one pichfork 2/6 } forty four w ^t flax 29/4 7½ lb of worsted & wool yarn 19/6..... }	2	12	10
Cash hard money £12 forty sheep & lambs £20	32	0	0
one hors £12 mare & Colt £5 fifteen swine £14	31	0	0
one p ^r oxen £15 & D ^o £13 Two Cows } £9—10 four yearlings £3—10..... }	41	0	0

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fourteen Acres of Wheat £23—8 one square } bottle 1/6 one hone 3/..... }	23	12	6
old sword 6/ three pounds old puter 3/ a } half Bufhel 3/	0	12	0
an account againft Isaac Underwood 20/ } D ^o againft Jonathan Forfyth 9/..... }	1	9	0
D ^o againft Tho ^s Parks 15/16 Justus Clark 1/4	0	16	4

account againft Elifha Garret.....	2	17	6
one p ^r Sadle bags.....	1	4	0
one sixth of an old Sein.....		18	0
one Calf 12/ account againft Nath ^l Evens 26/	1	18	0
		<hr/>	
		981	0 10

Westmoreland
15th April 1782

JOHN FRANKLIN } apprisers under Oath
OBAD^H GORE }
A true Entry OBAD^H GORE Clerk

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the Def-
trict of Westmoreland April 16th 1782 Prefent Nathan Den-
ison Esq^r Judge then was administration Granted to Wid^w
Sarah Cole on the Estate of Benjamin Cole late of West-
moreland Deceaf^d who became bound in a bond of Eighty
pounds Lawfull money with Frederick Evelyn for the faith-
full performance of that Truft

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the deftrict
of Westmoreland April 18th 1782 Prefent Nathan Denison
Esq^r Judge then was the Inventory of the Estate of Timothy
Pierce late of Westmoreland Deceafed Exhibited to said
Court and Ordered to be recorded which is as follows (viz)

An Inventory of the Estate of Timothy Pierce late of
Westmoreland (viz)

one meadow lott in the deftrict of Kings- town Westmoreland Containing about 40 acres at £3 N ^o 34.....	}	120	0	0
one half of a meadow lott in said Deftrict Containing 20 acres N ^o 33.....				
one lot of land Containing 6 acres and 140 Rods it being part of lot N ^o 33.....	}	14	0	0

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one pair of Plated Shoe buckels.....	0	2	0
one Colt Sold at 70 Cont ^l Dol ^s decm ^r 1778..	3	6	0
106 Contin ^l Dollar ^s Sept ^r 1 1778.....	7	19	0
one Iron Pott		6	0

Sundry book accounts to the amount £39 } L money	6	0	0
	<hr/>		
	211	13	0

Westmoreland
April 1 1782

JOHN FRANKLIN } apprifers under oath
HUGH FORSMAN }
A True Entry
OBAD^H GORE Clerk

Att the same Court was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Phillip Weeks and Ordered to be Recorded and is as follows

A true Inventory of the Estate of Phillip Weeks Deceaf^d

one old bed 30/ & old Coverlid 10/.....	£	2	0	0	
one bible 4/ Psalm book 2/.....			6	0	
Two old puter plates 3/.....			3	0	
hundred appletrees		3	15	0	
a stock buckle w ^t of half Dollar.....			3	0	
			<hr/>		
Westmoreland			6	7	0
March 25 th 1782*					

W^M WILLIAMS } apprifers under oath
DAN^{LL} GORE }
A True Entry
OBAD^H GORE Clerk

*From page 72

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the Destrict of Westmoreland on the 30th day of April 1782 Prefent Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then Tho^s Bennet of s^d Westmoreland was brought before said Court to be examined Touching the Concealing of the Estate of Cap^t Elifha Swift late of Westmoreland Deceafed & upon Examination this Court find that the s^d Bennet has in his Costody an Iron mill bar & Two Load of Plank from the mill & bridge Which the said Bennet is to be accountable to said Estate for Together with the Coft Taxed at 11/ L M

Court fees

Plan ^t	3/
3 witness	1/6
Supena	6/6
	<hr/>
	11/

Page 89.

Att the same Court was Exhibited an account against the Estate of Stephen Fuller Junr* late of Westmoreland Deceased by Cap^t Franklin amounting in the Whole to the Sum of £1—s. 8 d. 3 L M
Which account was allow^d

Also Ordered by said Court that Twenty Pounds Lawfull money from the Estate of the s^d Fuller Deceased be set off for the benefit of the Widow for bringing up the Child to the age of four years

*Order respecting Stephen Fuller Estate

Certifyd p^r OBAD^{'H} GORE Clerk

Att the same Court was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Elifha Richard late of Westmoreland Deceased Which was Ordered to be recorded and is as follows

An Inventory of the Estate of Elifha Richards of Westmoreland Deceased (viz)

Lands in Plymouth Distric in Westmoreland			
One Whole Right of land in plymouth Ex- clusive of that part of the house lot south of the highway at.....	}	160	0 0
13½ acres of land being the lower part of the meadow lott N ^o 2 at.....			
one Barn frame		3	0 0
one old linnen Wheel 3/ one hachle 6/.....		0	9 0
one p ^r Tongs 4/ one Tramel 4/.....			8 0
one brafs kittle 25/ old Tea pot 1/6.....		1	6 6
one Duch Shive w ^t 26¼lb.....		1	5 0
one old log house moved from the house lot by M ^r Ayers	}	4	6 0
one D ^o moved from the meadow lot by M ^r Nelson			
one Small ax 3/ one Iron pot 8/.....		0	11 0
one old bedstead & Cheft.....			6 0
			<hr/>
		£225	5 6

Westmoreland
30th April 1782

JAMES NISBIT }
JONAH ROGERS } apprifers under Oath
A True Entry p^r

OBAD^{'H} GORE Clerk

Page 90.

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland may 1st 1782 Prefent Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was adminiftration Granted to John Jenkins Esq^r on the Estate of Eliphalet Follet late of Westmoreland Deceafed who became bound in a bond of Two hundred pounds L M with John Comftock for the faithfull performance of that truff

Att the same Court adminiftration was Granted to barnabas Cary upon the Estate of Abraham Utter late of Westmoreland Deceafd who became bound in a bond of Fifty pounds Lawfull money with Cap^t Rob^t Hopkins for the faithfull performance of that Truff

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the deftrict of Westmoreland July 2^d 1782 Prefent Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was administration Granted to Wid^w Amy Williams upon the Estate of Rufus Williams late of Westmoreland Deceafed who became bound in a bond of Two hundred pounds L. M. with John Jenkins Esq^r for the faithfull performance of that Truff

Att the same Court Cap^t James Bidlack of Westmoreland Was Elected Guardian to Rhoda Sawyer a minor and Daughter to Tho^s Sawyer late of Westmoreland Deceafed and bound in a bond of one hundred pounds L M for his faithfull performance of his Guardianship to said minor

Page 91.

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland July 8th 1782 Prefent Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Benjⁿ Cole late of Westmoreland Deceafed and Ordered to be recorded which is as follows

Inventory of the Estate of Benjⁿ Cole late of Westmoreland Deceafed taken this 17th Day of April A D 1782

30 acres of land at £2.....	60	0	0
1 Cow	4	0	0
1 bed 2 pillows & 2 Coverlids 1 sheet.....	3	10	0
1 Iron kittle 20/ 1 Iron pot 10/.....	1	10	0
1 Foot Wheel 20/ 1 Cowbell 9/ Trap 3/...	1	12	0
1 ads 7/6 1 Auger 6/ Share & Colter 15/..	1	8	6

1 Broad ax 6/ Spinning wheel 5/.....	0	11	6
2 Barrels 12/ Loom & 2 Reeds £3.....	3	12	0
6 Harrow teeth Iron 6/.....		6	0
4 old Waggon Wheels £3 2 bedsteads 10/..	3	10	0
1 Chain 3/ 1 Gun 12/.....		15	0
2 Hoes 6/ 2 Pitch forks 3/.....		9	0
1 p ^r fire Tongs 4/.....		4	0
		<hr/>	
		81	17 6

NATH^{LL} LANDON } apprifers
 FREDERICK EVELAND } under Oath

A True Entry

OBAD^H GORE Clerk

Page 92.

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the 2nd day of July 1782 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was Exhibited the Inventory of an additional part of the Estate of Christopher Avery Esq^r Deceased which was ordered to be recorded and is as follows

An Inventory of an Additional part of the Estate of Chrif^r Avery Esq^r late of Westmoreland Deceased is as follows (viz)

one half a proprietors right in the Susq ^r } Purchase Originally Chris ^r Avery... }	12	10	0
one half a proprietors right in the Susq ^r } purchase Originally Cap ^t Arnold..... }	12	10	0
one whole share in ye frst Delaware purchase	8	0	0
one Whole share in the 2 nd Delaware purchase	6	0	0
one right in Munsey Creek Township } Originally Tho ^s Wolsworth	7	10	0
		<hr/>	
		46	10 0

OBAD^H GORE }
 W^M WILLIAMS } apprifers under Oath

Att the same Court was Exhibited amounts against the Estate of Christopher Avery Esq^r* late of Westmoreland Deceased to Such amount that the administrators rendered said Estate Insolvent in Consequence of Which it is Ordered and Decree^d by this Court that John Jenkins and Jonathan

Fitch Esq^{rs} be and they are hereby appointed Commissioners to Examine the Claims for and against sd Estate and to make report to this Court in one year from this date of their doings in the Premises

*Commissioners appointed to Examine the Estate of Christ^r Avery.

Page 93.

Att the same Court upon application of Wid^w Elifabeth Dorrance* for her thirds to be Set Off Ordered and Decreed^d by this Court that the one third of the real Estate of Col^o George Dorrance late of Westmoreland Deceased be set off to Elifabeth Dorrance Wid^w & Relict of the s^d Col^o George Dorrance and that Jonathan Fitch & Nath^l London Esq^{rs} and M^r Parthal Terry all of Westmoreland be and they are hereby appointed Destributors for the above purpose and to make return of their doings in the Premises to this Court on or before the last Tuesday of Instant July

*Order for setting out Wid^w Dorrances Thirds.

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the Distric of Westmoreland on the 27th day of July 1782 Prefent Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then Was adminiftration Granted to Robert Jamison & Wid^w Abigail Jamison on the Estate of John Jamison late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of Five hundred L M with M^r Prince Alding for the faithfull performance of that trust

Att the same Court the report of the Destributors who was appointed to set out the thirds of the Wid^w Elifabeth Dorrance which report is accepted and approved by the Court of probate and ordered to be recorded viz

We the Subscribers appointed by the Hon^{ble} Court of probate by order of the Judge to set of the one Equal third of the real Estate of Col^o George Dorrance Deceased unto Elifabeth Dorrance widow & Relict of said George Dorrance afterw^d We proceeded as

Page 94.

follows (viz) To Set of one meadow lott N^o 24 in the distric of Kingstown in s^d Town of Westmoreland butting & bounding as followeth Southwardly & Eastwardly on the Sufq^h River & Southwardly & westerly on land belonging to M^r John Dorrance & westerly on a highway at the End

of the meadow lot so called & northardly on land belonging to Ozias Yale's heirs s^d lot Containing about Forty One acres in the Whole also two thirds of a Ten acre lot being part of a house lot so Called in plymouth deftrict in Westmoreland afores^d being lot N^o Eight in s^d division of house lots also the one Equal half of the back lot in s^d deftrict of kingstown in the town afores^d butting & bounding southardly & Easterly on the high way & northwardly on land belonging to Mr. Elnathan Cary being lot N^o as p^r record in s^d deftrict the above defcribed lands are hereby Set of by us Jonathan Fitch & Nath^l landon Esq^{rs} & M^r Parshal Terry unto the s^d Elifabeth Dorrance as her Dower in an Equal division of the profits of the real Estate of the s^d Col^o George Dorrance deceased Divided & assigned unto the s^d Elifabeth Dorrance wid^w as the law directs by us the Subscribers under Oath

Dated at Westmoreland this 20th day of July 1782

JONATHAN FITCH	}	Distributors
NATH ^{LL} LONDON		
PARSHAL TERRY		

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the District of Westmoreland Aug^t 6th A D 1782 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was administration Granted to Sam^l Cummins on the Estate of John perkins late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of four hundred pounds Lawfull money with Cap^t Stephen Fuller for the faithfull performance of that Truft

Page 95.

Att the same Court upon application of M^{rs} Sarah Brockway——.

Att a Court of Probate Holden within and for the Deftrict of westmoreland Nov^r 5 1782 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was administration Granted to Desiah Williams on the Estate of Elihu Williams late of westmoreland Deceased who became Bound in a bond of three hundred pounds Lawfull Money with John Durrance for the faithfull Performance of that trust

Att the same Court was Administration Granted to Uranah Manval on the Estate of Nicolus Memval [Manval] Late of westmoreland Deceased who became Bound in a

bond of three Hundred pounds Lawfull money with Henry Birney for the faithfull Performance of that trust

A true Entry

HUGH FORSMAN Clerk

Page 96.

[No entries whatever on this page.]

Page 97.

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the deftrict of Westmoreland August 10th 1782 Prefent Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Jofeph Blanchard late of Westmoreland Deceafed and is as follows

A true Inventory of all and singular the Goods Chattels Effects and Estate of Jofeph Blanchard late of Westmoreland in the County of Westmoreland and State of Connecticut Deceafed taken by us the subscribers under oath and shewn to us by John Blanchard Admin^{tor} to s^d Estate is as follows (viz)

1 Chain 6/ one Croked ads 6/ 2 sythes } & Tack 4/.....		16	0
1 Bafon & platter 10/ 1 Tramel 7/ 1 linnen wheel	1	7	0
1 large wheel 5/ 1 Tramel 7/ 1 round shave 3/		15	0
1 Bafon 1/ Irons for Cart wheels 60/ & } p ^r p Irons 27/.....	4	8	0
Iron pot 10/ p ^r p Irons 23/ one pail 2/.....	1	15	0
1 plow 1/ Hymn book 3/ bafon & Dish 3/..		7	0
3 ^{lb} of sheeps wool 6/ 3 ^{lb} of woolen yarn 9/.		15	0
1 Linnen wheel 18/.....		18	0
half proprietors Right in Sufq ^h Purchase....	16	0	0
		<hr/>	
		27	1 0

march 15th 1782

PARSHAL TERRY } apprifers under
W^m WILLIAMS } Oath

Page 98.

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland August 14th 1782 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge Then was Exhibited the Inventory of the

Estate of Rufus Williams late of Westmoreland Deceased which is as Follows (viz)

A true and perfect Inventory of all and singular the Lands Goods Chattels & Estate of Rufus Williams late of Westmoreland Deceased shewn to us by the Administrator on s ^d Estate and apprised by us the Subscribers under Oath this 8 th day of Aug ^t 1782 is as follows (viz)					
Two meadow lots of land uper plymouth	}	£	s	d	
flats N ^o 3 N ^o 5 about 44 acres at....		250	0	0	
one p ^r of Leather Breeches 6/.....			6	0	
		<hr/>			
		Total	250	6	0
		NATH ^{LL} LANDON	} apprifers		
		PAR ^I HAL TERRY	} under Oath		

Att a Court of probate holden within and for the District of Westmoreland on the 27th day of Aug^t 1782 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was a Nuncupative Will and Testament of James Stark late of Westmoreland Deceased^d Exhibited to s^d Court which was approved and Ordered to be recorded (notwithstanding administration has heretofore been Granted on s^d Estate) and that the aforssd Estate be divided and sitled among the heirs in the manner Described in s^d Will &c

TO ALL PERSONS Whome it may Concern These may Certify that we the subscribers being Present with James Stark of Westmoreland in Sufquehannah who Dyed with the Small pox and we

Page 99.

heard him Declare this to be his Laft will he being then in his perfect Senses To wit that his Eldest son James Should have the homestead farm and his wife Elifabeth to have her thirds of his whole Estate the homestead farm Lying in the town of Wilkesbarre Containing five meadow lots lying together and his Son James for the same was to support his Grandmother and his own mother with what was Necessary During their Lives and his son Henry was to have two back lots with the Sawmill thereon lying in the same Town his daughter Esther was to have one hundred acres of Land in the Setling Rights in the same town all the rest of the setling Rights lying in wilkesbarre to be Divided between his three sons namely John Paul and Samuel and his three Daughters namely Abigail Elifabeth and Joanna to have

five hundred acres of land a piece in the first Draught in the proprietors right and Esther to have five Hundred acres likewise in said Right and all the moveables besides his wives thirds to Equally divided among all his his [Sic] Daughters and all the rest of his lands to be Equally Divided among all his sons and Josse Worden took the minutes of his will

JUSTUS WORDEN
HENRY STARK
WILLIAM STARK

Personally appeared before me the Subscriber the within named Justus Worden Henry Stark and W^m Stark and on Solemn Oath Declared that they were Present and heard James Stark Declare the Contents of the within written Instrument to be his last Will and Testament

Sworn before me this 3^d day of April 1782

W^m PARCE Justice of peace

Page 100.

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the District of Westmoreland the third day of September 1782 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was Isaac Underwood Elected Guardian to Jacob Blanchard a Minor and son to Joseph Blanchard late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of Fifty pounds for the faithful performance of that Trust to s^d Minor

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the District of Westmoreland the 20th day of Sep^t 1782 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was Administration Granted to Cap^t Stephen Fuller on the Estate of John Abbot Deceased who became bound in a bond of £300 L M with W^m Hooker Smith for the faithful performance of that Trust

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the District of Westmoreland the 30th day of Sep^t 1782 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was administration Granted to Daniel Dana on the Estate of Anderson Dana Esq^r Late of Westmoreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of £300 L M with W^m Avery for the faithful performance of that Trust

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the District of Westmoreland the 7th day of Octo^r 1782 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge Then was administration Granted to Parshal Terry on the Estate of W^m Terry late of West-

moreland Deceased who became bound in a bond of £50 L M with Dan^{ll} Gore for the faithfull performance of that Truft

Page 101.

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 4th day of Decem^r 1782 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was administration Granted to Martha Stewart on the Estate of Lazarus Stewart late of Westmoreland Deceaf^d who became bound in a bond of £500 L M with John Holenback for the faithfull performance of that Truft

Att the same Court M^r John Dorrance was Elected Guardian to Gershom, Benjⁿ Abel Mary and Lucy Dorrance Son^s and Daughters to Col^o George Dorrance late of Westmoreland Deceaf^d who became bound in a bond of £300 L M Each for the the [*Sic*] faithful performance of that Truft to Each of s^d minors

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the 2nd day of Decem^r A D 1782 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was administration Granted to Abel Pierce Esq^r on the Estate of Maj^r Ezekiel Pierce who became bound in a bond of £300 L M with Cap^t Simon Spalding for the faithfull performance of that Truft

Att a Court of Probate holden within & for the deftrict of Westmoreland on the 4th day of Decem^r 1782 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge then was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of John Abbott late of Westmoreland Deceaf^d and is as follows

Westmoreland Octo^r 8th 1782

The following is an Inventory of the Estate real and Personal of John Abbott Deceaf ^d		£	s	d
1 meadow lott of Land Containing 32 acres	}	86	0	0
at 53/9 p ^r acre.....				
15 acres of meadow land at 70/.....		52	10	0
2 Puter platters	}		12	0
1 Plate				
1 old Teapot				
½ pewter plate				
1 Iron dish Kittle.....		8	0	
1 Chain		14	6	
caried over		140	4	6

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	£	s	d
Brought over	140	4	6
1 Shackle & pin		1	6
1 Basket			6
1 Bolster with feathers		6	6
10 ^{lb} of Nails		15	0
1 p ^r of hinges		2	6
1 D ^o for barn dore.....		6	0
8 ^{lb} of shingle nails		9	4
1 old Churn			6
1 p ^r small p Irons.....		9	0
1 Feather bed bolster & pillows.....	3	11	0
1 bedtick		4	0
1 old Coverlid		2	0
1 Back lott Contain ^s about 270 acres.....	100	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£246	12	4

Apprised by us under Oath

JONATHAN FITCH
JAMES SUTTON

Att the same Court was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Anderson Dana Esq^r late of Westmoreland Deceafd and ordered to be recorded which is as follows

An Inventory of the Estate of Anderson Dana Esq^r of Westmoreland Deceafd

	£	s	d
one half of a Meadow lott in Wilksbarre } Deftrict being N ^o 11..... }	45	0	0
Two back lots in s ^d Deftrict N ^o 27 & 28....	150	0	0
one Hundred Acre lott in Pitstown.....	60	0	0
one pine lott in Pitstown N ^o 18.....	12	0	0
Share of Undivided land in s ^d deftrict.....	8	0	0
one set of Cart boxes hoops & tin.....	4	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£279	0	0

Westmoreland
Sep^t 30 1782

W^m WILLIAMS } apprifers
W^m AVERY } under Oath

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Att the same Court was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Cap^t David Marvin late of Westmoreland Deceased and Ordered to be recorded which is as follows

An Inventory of part of the Estate of Cap ^t David Marvin of Westmoreland Deceased		£	s	d
1	Right of land in Plymouth District.....	150	0	0
2	old pots 6/ 1 p ^r of old p Irons 10/.....	0	16	0
1	Tramel 8/ a p ^r of betle rings & wedge 8/.	0	16	0
2	old axes 12/ Two small bells 5/ 1 Cleve } & pin 2/6	0	19	6
1	old Churn, wheel, & pail 6/.....	0	6	0
1	old Chain 12/ one old linnen wheel 12/...	1	4	0
Westmoreland		154	1	6
Sep ^t 30 1782				

PHINEHAS NAFH } apprifers
JOHN FRANKLIN } under Oath

Att the same Court was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Timothy Hopkins, late of Westmoreland Deceased and Ordered to be recorded and is as follows

An Inventory of part of the Estate of Timothy Hopkins of Westmoreland Deceased (viz)		£	s	d
one	Right of land in Plymouth Deftrict.....	150	0	0
one	feather bed 50/ one old brafs kettle 12/.	3	2	0
one	old p ^r Tongs 1/.....		1	0
Westmoreland		£153	3	0
Sep ^t 30 1782				

PHINEHAS NAFH } apprifers
JOHN FRANKLIN } under oath

Att the same Court was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate of Mathew Marvin late of Westmoreland Deceased and ordered to be recorded which is as follows

An Inventory of the Estate of Mathew Marvin of Westmoreland Deceased (viz)		£	s	d
one	Right of land in Plymouth Deftrict.....	150	0	0
Westmoreland				
Sep ^t 30 1782				

PHINEHAS NAFH } apprifers
JOHN FRANKLIN } under oath

Page 104.

Att the same Court was Exhibited the Inventory of the Estate William Smith late of Westmoreland Deceased and Ordered to be recorded which is as follows

Decem^r 3^d 1782 An Inventory of the Estate real and Personal of W^m Smith of Newport Deftrict In the Town of Westmoreland In the State of Connecticut Deceas^d Taken by Lieu^t Roswel Franklin & Jonathan Cory being Qualifye^d thereto as the law directs

	£	s	d
one Right of land in Newport Deftrict.....	100	0	0
20 Cont ^l dollars rec ^d march 1779.....		10	10
one and half silver dollars 9/.....		9	0
rec ^d in Cash of Geo: Miller of Lyme.....	51	16	0
one old Cheft Two bottles & one Tray 6/....		6	0

£153 1 10

JONATHAN CORY }
 ROSWEL FRANKLIN } apprifers

Att the same time was Exhibited Sundry Accompts by the admin^{tor} againft s^d Estate to the amount of £22—7—5 L M which was allowed by the Court and ordered to be paid agreeable to the above Exhibit

Also Ordered that W^m Smith admin^{tor} on the Estate of William Smith late of Westmoreland Deceased be allow^d Twelve Dollars out of the Inventory of s^d Estate in consequence of losses of s^d Estate being burnt in Doct^r Smith^s houle in Feb^y 1782

A true Entry

OBAD^{'n} GORE Clerk

Page 105.

Att A Court of Probate holden within and for the District of westmoreland on the 15 Day of March A D 1783 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge, There was Administration Granted to Phinehas Pairce Deceas^{ed} [*Sic*] on the Estate of John Pairce who became Bound in a Bond of £200 L M with Abel Yearington for the faithfull performance of that Trust

Att the same Court was Administration Granted to Elisha Garritt on the Estate of Titus Garritt Late of westmoreland

Deceased who became Bound in A bond of one Hundred pounds Lawfull money with Nathan Cary for the faithfull Performance of that Trust

A true Entry

HUGH FORSMAN Clerk

Att a Court of Probate holden within and for the Deftrict of Westmoreland on the 16th day of June 1783 Present Nathan Denison Esq^r Judge Then was Exhibited the report of the Commissioners who was appointed to Examine the Claims for and against the Estate of Christopher Avery Esq^r Deceas^d which was Ordered to be recorded and is as follows

We the Subscribers being appointed Commisfioners by the Hon^{bl} the Judge of Probate for the Deftrict of Westmoreland to receive hear and Examine the Claims of the Several Creditors to and on the Estate of Christopher Avery Esq^r late of Westmoreland Deceas^d have in pursuance off and agreeable to said Orders proceeded on said bufinefs and after notifying the Several Creditors to and on said Estate according to the Directions of law when and where we Should attend on said bufinefs beg leave to report to your Honour that we after receiving hearing and Examining s^d Claims

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find due to the several persons hereafter named the Sums annexed to their Several Names (viz)	£	s	d
To Benj ⁿ Bailey on note.....	35	5	2
To Jn ^o McDowle on bond & Int ^r	201	5	2
To John Jenkins Esq ^r by note.....	3	8	1½
To W ^m Avery on account	30	7	0

June 16 1783

JOHN JENKINS {
JONATHAN FITCH { Commifrs

Cofts for attendance
advertifeing &c of
Commisfioners £2 12s

Page 107 is blank.

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APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATORS.

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Page	Administrators Appointed.	Intestate.	Date of the Holding of the Court.
1	Mary Nelson	Asa Lyon	January 6 1777
1	Mary Baker	John Baker	same date
1	John Staples	Jonathan Stowel	same date
1	Perin & Aleph Rofs	Jeremiah Rofs	March 10 th 1777
2	William & Mary Nelson	Asa Lyons	11
2	James Forsyds	Ephraim Wheeler	18
5	Sylas Hervey	Benjamin Hervey	28 th
5	Israel Walker	Isaah Walker	31 st
5	John Jenkins	Adenijah Daniels	April 1 st
6	Joshua Stevens	Ezekiel Hamlington	8 th
7	Anna Johnson	Nathaniel Johnson	19
11	Mehitabel Roods	Michael Roods	June 4 th 1777
23	Benjamin Hatch	Esbon Hatch	July 30 th
27	Mary & Hezekiah Roberts	Samuel Roberts	August 13 th
28	Mary Swift	Elisha Swift	14 th
28	Sarah Jeorams	Afahel Jeorams	25 th
29	Elizabeth Stark	James Stark	Septem ^r 17 th
29	William White	Isaah Paschs	22 nd
30	David Bixby	Elias Bixby	24 th
30	Jeremiah Durkee	Thomas Durkee	27 th
30	Josiah Parks	Christopher Reynolds	October 8 th
33	David Smith	Nathan Cresmond	22 nd
37	Philip Gefs	William Davison	January 22 ^d 1778
37	William Parks	Jonas Parks	April 1 st Monday
37	Elizabeth Depew	Nicholas Depew	16 th

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37	Elizabeth Coleman	Jeremiah Coleman	April 16 1778
38	Hulda Williams	Samuel Williams	same date
38	Dr. William Hooker Smith	Thomas Newcomb	April 27 th 1778
38	Martha Smith	Isaac Smith	same date
38	Margaret Hemsted	Benjamin Hemsted	same date
46	William & S ⁿ Avery	Christopher Avery	Septem ^r 22 ^d 1778
46	Widow Jane Shoemaker	Elijah Shoemaker	24
46	Phinihas Spafford	Darius Spafford	October 2 ^d
46	Asahel & Widow Buck	Capt Aholiol Buck	5 th
46	Widow Sarah Fuller	Stephen Fuller	7 th
46	Thomas Sawyer & Sh Rofs	Perin Rofs	Same Date
47	Samuel Cokran	James Cokran	Nov ^r 21 st
47	Widow Abigail Bidlack	Capt James Bidlack	24
47	Crocker Jones	Japhat Ritley	25
47	W ^m Hooker Smith	Capt Robert Carr	Same Date
48	Nathaniel Evans	Benjamin Ashley	Novem ^r 30 1778
48	Noah Pettibone	Noah Pettibone	27
48	Isaac Tripp	Aseph Whittlesey	Dec ^r 11 th
48	William Hooker Smith	Edward Lester	28
49	Jonathan Cory	Sinks Cory	March 14 1779
49	Widow Mary Smith & } William Smith }	William Smith	31
51	Widow Mihitabel Buck	Lieut Afahel Buck	April 2 ^d 1779
51	Job Tripp	Isaac Tripp	21 st

APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATORS—CONTINUED.

Page	Administrators Appointed.	Intestate.	Date of the Holding of the Court.
52	Benjamin Hervey	James Parker	May 1 st
52	Margaret Henlock	Jonathan Henlock	June 23 ^d
53	Widow Esther Ransom	Capt Samuel Ransom	Nov ^r 15
53	Nathaniel Carey	Eleazer Carey	20
54	Nathaniel Evans	Widow Sarah Ashley	Decr 1 st
55	Nathaniel Gofs	Philip Gofs	Jan ^y 18 1780
55	Thomas Dodson	Elias Bixsby	Same Date
61	Widow hannah Gore	Obadiah Gore	March 7 th 1780
61	Abel Yarrington	Silas Gore	Same Date
62	Widow Sarah Durkee	Capt Robert Durkee	June 27 1780
63	Richard and Sarah Brockay	Thomas Sawyer	Same Date
63	Phinihas Pierce	Col Geo Dorrance	Aug ^t 24
67	William Jackson	Samuel Jackson	26
68	Widow Isabel Wigton	Capt James Wigton	October 28
69	Widow dorcas Stewart	Lieut Lazarus Stewart	31
70	John Comstock	Kingsly Comstock	30

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70	James Stark	Widow Elizabeth Stark	Nov ^r 30 1780
72	Widow Abigail Weeks	Philip Weeks	March 11 th 1781
73	Widow Sarah Upson	Asa Upson	21 1781
73	Gideon Chunk	Nathaniel Chunk	April 10 th 1781
74	Daniel Gore	Nero Matison	Aug ^t 17 th 1781
75	William Heberd	Cyprian Heberd	Sep ^r 5 1781
78	John Blanchard	Joseph Blanchard	Nov ^r 15 1781
88	Widow Hannah Pierce	Timothy Pierce	Decr 6 th 1781
78	John Franklin Esqr	Elisha Richards	March 30 th 1782
78	Widow Mihitabel Bickford	Jeremiah Bickford	April 1 1782
79	Elisha Matthewson	Winchester Matthewson	Same Date
82	Timothy Hopkins	Timothy Hopkins	April 8 1782
82	Timothy Hopkins	David Marvin	Same Date
83	Timothy Hopkins	Matthew Marvin	Same Date
87	Widow Sarah Cole	Benjamin Cole	April 16 th 1782
90	John Jenkins Esqr	Eliphalet Follet	May 1 1782
90	Widow Amy Williams	Rufus Williams	July 2 ^d 1782
93	R ^t & Widow Abig ^l Jamison	John Jamison	July 27 1782
94	Samuel Cummings	John Perkins	August 6 1782
95	Deriah Williams	Elisha Williams	Nov ^r 5 1782
95	Urannah Manval	Nicolus Manval	Nov ^r 5 1782
100	Capt Stephen Fuller	John Abbot	Sep ^r 20 th 1782
100	Daniel Dana	Anderson Dana	Sep ^r 30 1782
100	Parshall Terry	William Terry	October 7 th 1782
101	Martha Stewart	Lazarus Stewart	Decr 4 1782
101	Abel Pierce	Majr Ezekiel Pierce	2 ^d 1782
105	Phinihas Pairce	John Pairce	March 15 1782
	Elisha Garrett	Titus Garrett	Same Date

Omissions

- 48 William McKarrikan Adm^r on the Estate of W^m H Smith Court held June 28 Decr 1778
- 52 Widow Sarah Inman Adm^x on the Estate of Elisha Inman Court held June 23 1779
- 90 Barnabas Carey Administrator on the Estate of Abraham Utter Court held May 1st 1782 [last item on p. 111].

INVENTORIES AND ADMINISTRATION ACCTS.

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Page	Name of Intestate.	Name of Administr.	Date of Presentation.
2	Jonathan Stovel	John Staples	18th March 1777
4	Afa Lyons	William & Mary Nelson	11 March 1777
5	Adenyah Daniels	John Jenkins	1st April 1777
7	Nathaniel Johnson	Mary Johnson	1st May 1777
8	Isaah Walker	Israel Walker	20 May 1777
9	Ephraim Wheler	James Forsyds	9th May 1777
9	Ezekial Hamlington	Joshua Stevens	2nd June 1777
11	Michael Roods	Mihitabel Roods	4
14	Jeremiah Rofs	Aleph Rofs	10 July
20	Howlet Hazen	Ex ^{er} Saviah Hazens	18
25	John Baker	Mary Baker	12 Augt
27	Benjamin Follet	Esther & Elipt Follet	13
28	Asahel Jeorams	Mary Jeorams	25
30	Elisha Swift	Mary Swift	10 October
32	Thomas Durkee	Jeremiah Durkee	14
33	Nathaniel Cresmond	David Smith	1st Monday of Decr
34	Elias Bigsby	David Bigsby	11th December
35	Christopher Reynolds	Josiah Parks	17th October
35	Benjn Hervey	Sylas Hervey	1 Janu ^y 1778
36	Ezekl Hamlington	Joshua Stevens	16
38	Ezbon Hatch	Benjamin Hatch	3d September
39	James Stark	Elizabeth Stark	Same Date
42	Jeremiah Coleman	Elizabeth Coleman	28 May 1778
43	Benjn Hamsted	Margt Hamsted	25 May
52	Michael Roods	Mihitabel Roods	26 March
52	Christopher Avery	Wm & Solomon Avery	11 November
53	Eleazer Carey	Nathaniel Carey	29
54	Japhet Ritley	Crocker Jones	15 December
55	Philip Gofs	Nathaniel Gofs	28 January 1780
56	Aseph Whittlesey	Isaac Tripp	11 December 1778
57	Benjn Ashley	Nathaniel Evans	4 february 17780
58	Widw Sarah Ashley	Nathaniel Evans	Same Date 1780
59	Capt Saml Ransom	Widow E Ransom	29
61	Elisha Inman	Widow S Inman	2d May 1780
63	Capt R ^t Durkee	Widow S Durkee	5 September
64	Thomas Sawyer	R & S Brockay	Same Date

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65	Capt Obadiah Gore	Widow Hannh Gore	5th September 1780
67	Col Geo Dorrance	Phinihas Pierce	26
69	Capt James Wigton	Widow I Wigton	1st November
70	Widow E Stark	James Stark	2d December
70	Eleazer Carey	Nathl Carey	10
71	Capt J Bidlack	Widow A Bidlack	5
72	Philip Weeks	Widow A Weeks	16 March 1781
73	Liu ^t Lazarus Stew ^t	Widow D Stewart	3d April 1781
74	Widow E Stark	James Stark	Same Date
74	Capt A Whittlsey	Isaac Tripp	Same Date

INVENTORIES AND ADMINISTRATION ACCT.—CONTINUED.

Page	Name of Intestate.	Name of Administr.	Date of Presentation.
75	Cyprian Heberd	William Heberd	24 December
76	Edward Lefter	W Hooker Smith	Same Date
76	Noah Pettibone	Noah Pettibone	24
77	Capt ^t Rt ^t Karr		1 st January 1782
77	Stephen Fuller	Widow S Fuller	Same Date
81	Asa Upson	Widow S Upson	5 th June 1781
83	Jer ^h Bickford	Widow Bickford	8 April 1782
83	Winchr ^r Matthewson	Elisha Matthewson	Same Date
84	Isaac Tripp Esq ^r	Job Tripp	Same Date
85	John Hurlburt	Ebr & Cr Hurlburt	15
87	Timothy Pierce	Widow H Pierce	18
88	Philip Weeks	Widow A Weeks	Same Date
89	Elisha Richards	John Franklin Esq ^r	Same Date
91	Benj ⁿ Cole	Widow Sarah Cole	8 th July 1782
92	Christopher Avery	Wm & Solomon Avery	2 ^d
97	Joseph Blanchard	John Blanchard	10 August 1782
98	Rufus Williams	Wid ^w Amy Williams	14
101	John Abbot	Capt ^t S Fuller	4 December
102	Anderson Dana	Daniel Dana	Same Date
103	C David Marvin	Timothy Hopkins	Same Date
103	Timothy Hopkins	Timy Hopkins	Same Date
103	Matthew Marvin	Timy Hopkins	Same Date
104	William Smith	Edward Lester	Same Date
104	William Smith	Edward Lefter	3 ^d December 1782

RECORDS OF WILLS.

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Page	Name of Testator	Date of Will.	Executors.
12	Howlet Hazens	5 th May	1777 Saviah Hazens
24	Asahel Jeorams	26 July	1777
49	Peter Harris	26 December	1777 Mary Harris
50	Gad Marshall	27 November	1778 Mary Marshall
79	John Hurlburt	1 April	1782 Eb ^r & C ^r Hurlburt
98	James Stark	27 August	1782

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

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3	Dower of 6 <i>l</i> set off to the Widow of Jonathan Stowel of Westmoreland	March 13	1777
7	£6—9—10 paid out to the several Creditors of the Estate of Asa Lyons deceased.....	April 15 th	
9	Constant Searles and Dathick Hewit app'd to examine the Claims on the Estate of Exekiel Hamlington.	June 2	
19	By order of the Court all the Estate of Nathaniel Johnson decaas'd was appropriated to the use of bringing up three small helpless Children Mary Johnson consenting to the same after the Debts and Charges were paid	July 12	1777
20	£8—9—5 allowed to Esther Follet.....	} Admrs 14	
20th	£10—14—3 allowed to Eliphalet Follet		
33	30 <i>l</i> was allowed Mary Smith [Sic] Widow for the maintenance of two Children.....	October 24	
33	11 <i>l</i> —9s—6d was allowed to David Smith from the Estate of Nathaniel Cresmond for defraying funeral Expenses &c	Decr 1	
36	11 <i>l</i> —7s—2d was allowed to Joshua Stevens Administrator on the Estate of Ezekiel Hamlington.....	Jany 16	
36	The use of the Artices mentioned in page 36 of Westmoreland probate Records during her Life time to the Widow of Ezekiel Hamlington.....	Same Date	
43	An addition to the Inventory of Michael Roods.....	March	
60	The whole of the moveables to the amount of 126 <i>l</i> —2s—9d were ordered to the Widow Esther Ransom for having discharged Debts on the Estate of Captain Ransom to the amount of 147 <i>l</i> —10s—4d..	feby 29	1780
79	26 <i>l</i> was allowed to Widow Sarah Heberd out of the Estate of Cyprian Herberd deceased for her Expence and trouble in bringing up the Child untill its arrival at the age of 4 years.....	April 1	1782
82	Upon the Request of Mrs. Sarah Bennet late widow of Aia Upson for her 3 ^{ds} was by order of the Court to receive 26 <i>l</i> —14—5	June 5	
77	Debts exhibited ag st Robert Karr.....	Jany 1	1782

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS—CONTINUED.

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88	Thomas Bennet examined touching the Estate of Elisha Swift	April 30 th	1782
	One pound eight shillings and threepence allowed to Captain Franklin as per his account against the Estate of Stephen Fuller.....		
92	Was exhibited accounts against the Estate of Christopher Avery Esq ^r	July 2	1782
90	Captain James Bidlack elected Guardian to Rhoda Williams	Same Date	
92	Comm ^r s appointed to examine the Estate of Christopher Avery Esq ^r	Same Date	
93	Order for settling the Thirds of Widow Dorrance....	Same Date	
93	The report of the Distributors of the Thirds of Widow Dorrance accepted by the Court.....	July 27	
95	Application made by Mrs Sarah Brockway.....	Aug ^t 6	1782
98	The Nuncupative Will of James Stark ordered to be recorded	Aug ^t 27	
100	Isaac Underwood elected Guardian to Jacob Blanchard	Sep ^r 3	1782
101	John Dorrance elected Guardian to Gershom Benjamin	Dec ^r 4	
104	Sundry accounts were exhibited against the Estate of William Hooker Smith.....	3 ^d	
	A Report of the Commissioners app ^d to examine the Claims for and against the Estate of Christopher Avery was exhibited.....	June 16	1783
104	Costs for the attendance of the Commissioners &ca £2—12	Same Date	
68	Daniel Sherwood examined touching the Estate of Asaph Whittlesey	Oct ^r 3	1780
56	Notes of Hand against the Estate of Capt Stephen Fuller	Jan ^y 18	1780
68	Daniel Sherwood examined touching a feather Bed belonging to the Estate of Asaph Whittlesly.....	Oct ^r 3	1780
90	Cap ^{tn} James Bidlack elected Guardian to Rhoda Sawyer	July 2	1782

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THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA *IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED*

To John Jenkins Esq. and

captains in your Militia, Colors, and Troops, **DO** by these presents constitute and appoint you, to a Lieutenant in the First Regiment of Connecticut in the Army of the United States, to take rank as such

from the 5th day of July 1778. You, as therefore respectively and duly to discharge the duty of a Lieutenant by doing and performing all manner of things therein, belonging. And we do hereby charge and require all Officers and Soldiers, under your command, to be obedient to your orders, as Lieutenants.

And you are to observe and follow such orders and directions, from time to time as you shall receive from this, or a future Congress of the United States, or Committee of Congress for that purpose appointed, a Committee of the States, or Commander in chief for the time being of the Army of the United States, or any other your Superior Officer, according to the rules and discipline of War, in pursuance of the trust reposed in you. This Commission to continue in force until revoked by this or a future Congress, the Committee of Congress before mentioned, or a Committee of the States.

Entered in the War Office and examined by the Board

Attest
J. F. Johnson

Witness His Excellency, Thomas M'Kean Esquire, President of the Congress of the United States of America, at Philadelphia the 18th day of September 1781, and in the 10th year of our Independence.

Secretary of the Board of War

John Jenkins Esquire

SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF LT. COL. JOHN
JENKINS.

Lieutenant Colonel John Jenkins whose commission as a Lieutenant in Washington's army, with discharge endorsed thereon, is here reproduced in fac-simile (pages 249, 251), was fifth in line of descent from John Jenkins of Sandwich, Massachusetts, who was a resident of that place when, in 1651, his second child, Zechariah was born.

After the Zechariah Jenkins of Sandwich, above mentioned, there were successively in the line of descent three Johns, and of these the second was Judge John Jenkins, grandson of Zechariah and the father of Colonel John Jenkins.

Judge Jenkins was one of the early and prominent members of the Susquehanna Company, served in the Connecticut Legislature from Wyoming, and was judge of the Court in Westmoreland county, appointed and re-appointed by the Connecticut General Assembly. He was moderator of the town meeting which formally committed the settlement to the cause of American independence. He was a picturesque character and a worthy sire of his patriotic son.

Colonel Jenkins was born at Gardner's Lake, New London, Connecticut, November 27, 1751, and died in Exeter on the Wyoming battle ground March 19th, 1827. He was a surveyor, as was also his father, and was appointed by the Connecticut Assembly "Surveyor of Lands for the County of Westmoreland". In October, 1775, he was commissioned Ensign in the Connecticut militia in one of the Wyoming Companies—Captain Solomon Strong's. In November, 1777, he was captured by Indians, taken to Niagara and Montreal, and thence to Albany for exchange, but, the Chief who was to have been exchanged having died, Ensign Jenkins was sent again to Niagara. On the way thither and near Kanadosaga (Geneva) he made his escape

and reached Wyoming again early in June, 1778. Soon after his return he was married to Bethia Harris. During the battle and massacre at Wyoming on July 3, 1778, he was in charge of Forty Fort and its garrison. The following year, after an interview with Washington, he was detailed as guide to the Sullivan expedition against the Six Nations and British and acquitted himself creditably in the battle of Newtown, near where Elmira now stands. As the commission itself indicates he had performed the duties of his rank for eight months before he received the commission from Congress, up to that time however his rank had been in the Connecticut Militia. He served throughout the Revolution and was attached to the command of Baron Steuben at Yorktown.

After the Revolution he returned to Wyoming and was one of the most active and zealous partisans of Connecticut in the struggle against Pennsylvania for possession and control of the Wyoming region. Except perhaps John Franklin no one was more active or influential on the Yankee side in all that controversy.

When Franklin was arrested and taken to Philadelphia in irons the Yankees retaliated by capturing Timothy Pickering (later a member of Washington's cabinet and after that Senator from Massachusetts), and holding him prisoner in the forest near Black Walnut Bottom, for three weeks. Pennsylvania offered rewards for the capture and arrest of those who were believed to have been implicated in Pickering's capture, and evidently believed that John Jenkins was the leader of the conspiracy, for the reward offered for his arrest was three times that for any of the others.

The attitude of the more positive of the Connecticut claimants with respect to the particular law then being considered was stated by Colonel Jenkins in a prophetic speech at Forty Fort in February, 1787, which is printed in Governor Hoyt's "Briefs of a Title", page 104.

He was a strong supporter of the project to set off a new

This certifies that Lieutenant John Jenkins is hereby
discharged the service of the United States at his own
request.

Given at Head quarters in the Fifth
of New York, this fifth day of March
1802.

Wm M

W. Leath
Adjutant General

John

Wm M

John Jenkins

State here. He received from the Connecticut Delaware Company grant of a township which was called "Mount Jenkins". He did much surveying in the vicinity of Seneca Lake. He was engaged in surveying for the proprietors of the Phelps and Graham purchase and, with John Swift of Wyoming, bought in 1790, for £1320, the 21,120 acres which became the town of Palmyra, Wayne County, N. Y. This land they sold chiefly to men of Tioga Point.

When the Connecticut cause was finally lost and its settlers accepted the sovereignty of Pennsylvania, Colonel Jenkins, with others, yielded to the new authority. He then served in the General Assembly of Pennsylvania as the representative of Luzerne County and became a Lieutenant Colonel in the Pennsylvania Militia, whence his usual title as Colonel.

The journal kept by Lieutenant John Jenkins during his service with the Sullivan expedition was printed by the State of New York in its publication of the Journals of that Expedition published in 1887, the original is preserved in the hands of his descendants. Sketches of both Judge and Colonel John Jenkins may be found in the Pittston Gazette of September 4, 1874; The Harris Genealogy, by N. H. Morgan; Oscar J. Harvey's History of Wilkes-Barre and Wyoming Valley (Vol. 2, p. 806); Wright's Historical Sketches of Plymouth; Miner's History of Wyoming; in a series of papers contributed by Mrs. Mary B. J. Richart to the American Historical Register, volumes 2 and 3; and in an address of William A. Wilcox at the dedication of the marker of Jenkins Fort, October 12, 1900. A possible clue to this Jenkins line back of John of Sandwich may be found in a note in Otis and Swift's Barnstable and a reference there to Bayley's "New England Judged by the Spirit of the Lord". This latter treats of the Quakers and the persecutions they underwent. The early Jenkinsons of this line were Quakers.

MEMBERS WHO HAVE DIED SINCE THE ISSUE OF VOLUME XVII.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Hon. Henry Blackman Plumb, d. May 27, 1921.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

Felix Ansart, d. September 29, 1922.

Pierce Butler, d. February 16, 1922.

John Wolfe Jordan, d. June 12, 1921.

Joseph Trimble Rothrock, M. D., d. June 2, 1922.

BENEFACTORS.

Andrew Hunlock, d. October 20, 1920.

Major Irving Ariel Stearns, d. October 5, 1920.

LIFE MEMBERS.

Robert Packer Brodhead, d. May 18, 1922.

Mrs. Jennie (DeWitt) Harvey, d. September 6, 1922.

Mrs. Martha (Bennett) Phelps, d. September 7, 1920.

J. Bennett Smith, d. December 9, 1920.

Thomas Kirkbride Sturdevant, d. April 14, 1922.

Miss Sallie Brinton Thomas, d. January 3, 1920.

Christopher Wren, d. April 16, 1922.

ANNUAL MEMBERS.

Shepherd Ayars, d. August 3, 1922.

Mrs. Eleanor McCartney Bamford, d. October 13, 1922.

Jesse Beadle, d. February 25, 1921.

R. Nelson Bennett, d. November 17, 1921.

Frederick M. Chase, d. April 8, 1921.

Oscar Jewell Harvey, d. March 26, 1922.

George A. Johnson, d. October 19, 1922.

William H. Richmond, d. March 15, 1922.

J. Irving Roe, M. D., d. July 3, 1922.

Christian Scharer, d. June 30, 1920.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

MAJOR IRVING ARIEL STEARNS,

Mr. Stearns came of New England stock, a descendant in the eighth generation of Charles Stearns who was admitted freeman in Watertown in 1646.

Irving Ariel Stearns was born September 12, 1845, in Rushville, New York, a son of George W. and Miranda (Tufts) Stearns. He was graduated from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute of Troy, New York, in the celebrated class of 1868.

After graduation he was assistant professor of chemistry in charge of the analytical laboratory for a year, and came to Wilkes-Barre in 1869, as engineer in the office of R. P. Rothwell, then the leading mining engineer of the region. From 1871 to 1872 he was superintendent of the McNeil Coal and Iron Company of Schuylkill County, and in 1872 succeeded to Mr. Rothwell's business when he left the region to take charge, as editor, of the Engineering and Mining Journal of New York. From 1872 to 1885 Mr. Stearns was in private practice as a mining engineer, handling a great amount of business in the Anthracite region, including the building of the bridges at Shickshinny and Pittston, and the surveying and mapping of many of the individually operated mines. His business practice extended throughout the country, with numerous examinations and reports upon mining properties in Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, Arkansas, Colorado, Nevada, California, Wyoming, Idaho and Utah. He was responsible for the design and execution of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company's great Tift Farm improvements at Buffalo, N. Y., including canals, docks, coal-stocking plant, etc.

He was commissioned quartermaster of the Ninth Regiment, N. G. P., March 29, 1880, was promoted to major May 15, 1884, and resigned April 1, 1885. He always retained his interest in the National Guard, and was trustee and president of the Ninth Regiment Armory Association. Even at this early date Mr. Stearns was one of the best known mining engineers in the United States. His eminence

in his profession led to his appointment, in the Fall of 1885, as manager of the various coal interests owned and controlled by the Pennsylvania Company, which position he held until July, 1897.

During this time he brought the properties of which he was in control to the highest state of efficiency. He was personally responsible for the introduction in the anthracite region of high pressure boilers, the first of which were put in at Shamokin; of underground electric haulage, the first in the United States, and the second in the world, put in the Lykens Valley Colliery in 1886; and of high pressure compressed air haulage in 1895. He also introduced radical improvements in mining and in the preparation of anthracite coal.

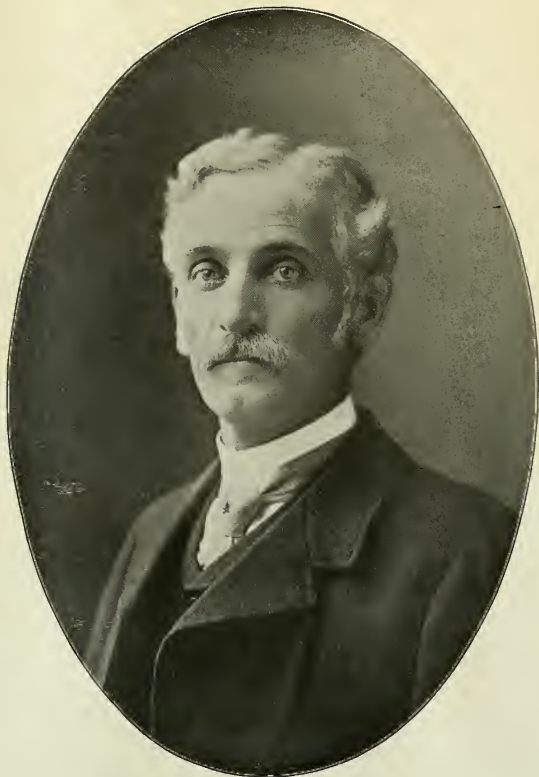
In July, 1897, Mr. Stearns was elected president of the Cross Creek Coal Company, Coxe Brothers and Company, Inc., the Delaware, Susquehanna & Schuylkill R. R. Co., and the Coxe Iron Manufacturing Co., and held these positions until the sale of the properties to the Lehigh Valley Coal Company in the Fall of 1895. During this time, with his genius for organization he brought the mines to the highest degree of operating efficiency.

On November 30, 1906, he was elected the first President of the Wilkes-Barre Park Commission, which office he held for ten years.

He was one of the organizers of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, founded in Wilkes-Barre in 1871, was vice-president in 1905-6, and at the time of his death was one of the three living original members of the Institute.

Major Stearns took a great interest in the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, of which he had been the President from 1906 to the time of his death. He was never too busy to give his full attention to the welfare of this Society, and his genial and dignified presence will be greatly missed at our meetings.

Mr. Stearns married, November 20, 1872, Clorinda W. Shoemaker, eldest daughter of Hon. L. D. and Esther (Wadhams) Shoemaker, of Wilkes-Barre, who died May 6, 1904. They had three children, of whom one daughter, Esther Shoemaker Stearns, wife of Harold Mercer Shoemaker, and their two children, Irving Stearns Shoemaker and William Mercer Shoemaker, are the only surviving descendants.



Christopher Wren

CHRISTOPHER WREN,

After serving as Corresponding Secretary and Librarian from September 1, 1917, he died April 16, 1922, following an illness of two months, aged 68 years. Born August 16, 1853, at Pottsville, Schuylkill County, Pa., he was a son of John Young and Anne (George) Wren, and grandson of William and Jean (McCreath) Wren, who came from the vicinity of Glasgow, Scotland, to Nova Scotia in 1831, where he was interested in the development of coal and other mineral wealth of that country. His father, also a native of Scotland, came from Nova Scotia to Pottsville, Pa., where, in 1849, was organized the firm of J. Y. Wren and Bros., founders and machinists, now the Washington Iron Works of that town. He invented and patented a hand or power pump in 1879, also an improved safety lamp. He was at one time a captain in the Penna. National Guard, and served for three years with Battery G., 112th Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery in the Civil War. In 1869, he removed to Plymouth, Pa., continuing in the same line of manufacture, which town he served as Burgess for a term.

Christopher Wren was educated in the public schools of Pottsville and Mahanoy City, and in his father's office. In 1880 he engaged in the insurance and real estate business, continuing in that line until death. The Fire Department of Plymouth was organized in his office, and he was a charter member of Fire Co. No. 1. He became the first Secretary of Plymouth's Board of Trade, was for many years a trustee of the First Presbyterian Church of that town, and served as Prothonotary of Luzerne County, 1889-92. He was a member of Plymouth Lodge, No. 332, F. and A. M., and its Worshipful Master in 1891; also of Valley Chapter, No. 214, Royal Arch Masons, its High Priest in 1898, and one of its trustees at death.

Mr. Wren was a member of the Federation of Pennsylvania Historical Societies, the War History Commission of Pa., St. Andrew's Society, of Philadelphia, the Pennsylvania Historical Society, and a Corresponding Member of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia. He was possessed of an inventive genius, and patented an attachment for a drilling machine, 1882; a drill support, 1882; and an expanding coal reamer, 1884.

An authority on Indian lore, Mr. Wren contributed several papers to the published collections of the Society, among which may be mentioned "The Remains of the Stone Age in Wyoming Valley and along the Susquehanna River," (1904); "Aboriginal Pottery of the Wyoming Valley Region," (1905); "Turtle Shell Rattles from Indian Graves at Athens, Pa.," (1909); "Some Indian Graves at Plymouth, Pa.," (1912); "A Study of North Appalachian Indian Pottery," (1914). But he will be best remembered through his gift to the Society, in 1903, of a large part of his private collection of local Indian relics, bearing his name (reserving only the more valuable specimens to himself), which enriches our anthropological department, of which he was the first curator, and which will endure as a fitting memorial to his indefatigable labors in that field of research.

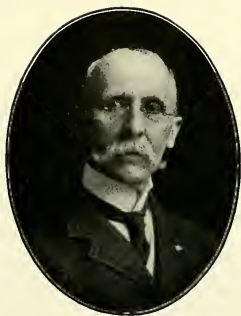
OSCAR JEWELL HARVEY,

OSCAR JEWELL HARVEY⁹ (Elisha B.,⁸ Benjamin,⁷ Elisha,⁶ Benjamin,⁵ John,⁴ John,³ Thomas,² Thomas,¹) was the son of Elisha B. and Sarah (Garretson) Harvey, and was born in Wilkes-Barré, Penn'a., Tuesday, September 2, 1851.

He was prepared for college at the school conducted by his father, and during his last year there taught some of the primary classes. In September, 1867, ten days after his sixteenth birthday, he entered the Freshmen class of Lafayette College, Easton, Penn'a. While in college he became a member of the D. K. E. Fraternity, and of the Washington Literary Society, and was elected historian of his class for life. In 1870 he was instrumental in organizing the D. K. E. Boat Club, and was the first Captain of the club. He was graduated from college in June, 1871, with the degree of A. B., and three years later the degree of A. M. was conferred on him.

From 1872 to 1882 he maintained at Lafayette College "The Harvey Prize for English," an annual prize of twenty dollars in gold given to the student of the Junior class excelling in the English studies of the year. He also contributed a collection of valuable books to the college library, and was Recording Secretary of the Alumni Association from 1872 to 1882.

The year following his graduation from college he spent



Oscar Jewell Harvey

as a clerk in the office of his father—then a practicing lawyer and a magistrate—in Wilkes-Barré.

In July, 1872, Oscar J. Harvey was elected Professor of Mathematics and Higher English in the Wyoming Seminary, Kingston, Penn'a., and in September following entered upon his duties. He remained at this institution until July, 1873, when, owing to the fact that it was necessary for him to devote a good deal of time as acting executor to the affairs of his deceased father's estate, he resigned his professorship.

In the following Autumn he became a student of law under the direction of the Hon. Caleb E. Wright and Isaac P. Hand, Esq., Wilkes-Barré, and in October, 1875, passed his examination for admission to the Bar; but the Courts not being in session he could not be admitted at that time. A few days later he sailed from New York for Europe, where he spent six months in study and sight-seeing in London, France and Italy. Returning to Wilkes-Barré May 13, 1876, he was admitted to the Bar of Luzerne county three days later, and in April, 1879, was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Harvey took an active part in the National political campaign of 1876, and in January, 1877, was put forward by the young Republicans of Wilkes-Barré as their candidate for the Mayoralty nomination. He was defeated in the city convention by four votes, the successful candidate being W. W. Loomis, Esq., a man of years and experience—who, a month later, was elected Mayor of the city.

Oscar J. Harvey was made a Free Mason in Lodge No. 61, Wilkes-Barré, May 25, 1873, and was Worshipful Master of the Lodge in 1879. He became a Companion of Shekinah Chapter No. 182, R. A. M., in 1877, and the same year received the various degrees of Templar Masonry, and was admitted to membership in Dieu le Veut Commandery No. 45, K. T., Wilkes-Barré. He held the office of Prelate in the Commandery for two or three years.

In 1873 he was one of the charter members of E. B. Harvey Lodge No. 839, I. O. O. F., at Wilkes-Barré, and subsequently held the office of Noble Grand of the Lodge two terms. In 1879 and again in 1881 he was one of five or six candidates for the office of R. W. Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania (then as now the largest

Grand Lodge in the Order), and next to the successful candidate received at each election the highest number of votes.

He was the first Captain of the Wilkes-Barré Fencibles, an infantry company organized November 28, 1878, under the militia laws of Pennsylvania. This company was the nucleus of the 9th Regiment, N. G. P., and in June, 1879, became Company B of that organization. October 17, 1879, Captain Harvey was promoted Commissary of the regiment, and this office he held until July 11, 1881, when he was honorably discharged from the service, in accordance with "the provisions of section twenty-two of the Act approved June 8, 1881, which directs all regimental paymasters and commissaries to be discharged."

The latter years of his life Mr. Harvey gave almost exclusively to literary work and especially to research in the rich field of local history. He was the author of "A History of Lodge 61, F, and A. M.," a large octavo volume much valued by the Masonic fraternity. For the dedication of Irem Temple he prepared a handsomely illustrated history of that organization from its beginnings in Wilkes-Barré. A booklet of wide vogue during the Wilkes-Barré Centennial celebration of 1906 was also from the pen of Mr. Harvey.

In 1907 Oscar J. Harvey published two volumes of his "History of Wilkes-Barré and the Wyoming Valley," upon which his fame as an historian rests secure. These volumes are to be found in nearly every public library of the country and are accepted as the most complete and most authentic historical sketches published of any locality of the United States. Financially, this history proved a heavy loss to its author and, while he continued with unabated zeal his studies of local events, Mr. Harvey never completed the manuscript of many additional chapters intended for the remaining two volumes of this important work. At his death, his family very carefully preserved the data the author had collected in almost a half century of investigation and requested Ernest G. Smith, of Wilkes-Barré to accept it as a basis for the completion of the work. Col. Smith secured financial assistance from various public spirited citizens who desired to see the work finished and has devoted some six months of patient effort to classifying and arranging this data in proper order and has written eight chapters in addition to

the manuscript left by Mr. Harvey to complete the third volume.

A fourth volume, giving a running narrative of events from the year 1800 to the present and concluding with an index of all four volumes should be ready for the printer by the end of the present year.

Oscar J. Harvey was united in marriage to Fannie Virginia Holden (daughter of Eben B. and Martha Smith Holden) of West Chester, Penn'a., June 23, 1880. Five children were born to the couple:

Thorndyke, at Wilkes-Barré, May 18, 1881.

Ethel and Helen, twins, at Wilkes-Barré, September 18, 1883.

Ernest, at Washington, D. C., June 2, 1886.

Walter, at West Chester, Penn'a., October 31, 1887.

The youngest child died in infancy, the wife and remaining children surviving Mr. Harvey.

In 1913, Mr. Harvey became Historiographer of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, retaining that office until his death. The services of Mr. Harvey in recent years had been retained by the Wilkes-Barre Rotary Club in connection with delivering a series of lectures on local history to pupils of the High School of the city.

These lectures were of a nature to provoke class room discussions on interesting topics, proving as well an incentive to a more accurate knowledge of local history on the part of teachers and students. As a consequence they were looked forward to with an interest not often accorded in school affairs and became a source of enlightenment to all concerned.

Historian Harvey was frequently called upon by Historical Societies in all parts of the country to prepare outlines of subjects allied with the history of the Wyoming Valley and his papers have been featured on programs of community interest in several States. The last paper read before the Wyoming Society by Mr. Harvey featured "Early Newspapers of the Wyoming Valley," and is published in this volume. For several years before his last illness Oscar J. Harvey was a sufferer from a complication of ailments. But these afflictions he bore cheerfully as was his custom.

Of a gentle, retiring and studious nature, Oscar J. Harvey made friends slowly but held them by his geniality, his loyalty and his warm hearted consideration of others.

It was a last regret with him that circumstances had forced him to abandon the completion of his history. It can therefore be a matter of satisfaction to his friends, as it will be a memorial to his name, to have this history published in its intended four volume form at an early date by those of the community who realized its worth. Oscar J. Harvey died at the home of his sister, Mrs. L. L. Reese, of Kingston, March 26, 1922.

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